

**NEW SERIES, NO. 21. THE ANNUAL
MONITOR FOR 1863, OR OBITUARY
OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY
OF FRIENDS; IN GREAT BRITAIN
AND IRELAND; FOR THE YEAR 1862**

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JOSEPH JOSHUA GREEN

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THE
ANNUAL MONITOR
FOR 1863,

OR
OBITUARY

OF THE
MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

in Great Britain and Ireland,

FOR THE YEAR 1863.

L O N D O N :

SOLD BY A. W. BENNETT, (SUCCESSOR TO W. AND F. G. CASH,)
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1863.

PREFACE.

THE kind co-operation of our friends again enables us to accompany the usual obituary notices of the ANNUAL MONITOR with a considerable number and variety of biographical memorials. These are interesting and valuable in their individual characteristics; they are not less so in the force of their united witness to the beauty and excellence of the "Light of the Gospel of the *glory of Christ, who is the image of God.*" Applied to the heart by the power of the Holy Spirit, the Truth as it is in Him, has never failed to secure the present and everlasting well-being of the humble believer; and it is cause for thankfulness when, amidst all the conflicting opinions of men, we see these blessed results realised in the devoted lives and happy deaths of Christians of every age. Well might the apostle Paul, in the warmth of his love towards his Colossian brethren, whilst he rejoiced in beholding "their order and the stedfastness of their faith in Christ," and yet had a keen sense of the danger to which they were exposed from false teachers, address

to them the words of earnest exhortation: "As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving. Beware lest any man spoil you, through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ; for in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily; and ye are complete in him, who is the head of all principality and power."

Whatever may be the trials and dangers of our own day; whether we suffer as individuals, or in sympathy with afflicted humanity, may it please the Lord so to bless even this little volume to its readers, that, animated by the example of those who through faith and patience have already inherited the promises, we also may continue in the faith, grounded and settled, neither shaken in mind nor moved away from the hope of the Gospel, by any of the commotions which are in the earth;—stedfast and immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord.

THE
ANNUAL MONITOR.

OBITUARY.

	Age.	Time of Decease.	
JANE ALDERSON,	49	21	9 mo. 1862
<i>Dent, Yorkshire.</i> Daughter of John Alderson.			
EDITH E. ALEXANDER,	15	13	6 mo. 1862
<i>Ipswich.</i> Daughter of John Biddle and Anna S. Alexander.			
JOHN BIDDLE ALEXANDER,	50	29	6 mo. 1862
<i>Ipswich.</i>			

From early life he manifested an amiable, frank, and generous disposition, and was often visited with the strivings of the Holy Spirit; yet being easily led by the influence of companionship, he suffered these to be quenched, and gave way to a measure of conformity to the habits and maxims of the world, which he afterwards saw to be incompatible with real religion, and was

strengthened to forsake. From this time it was his desire and aim both in the arrangements of his family and household, and in the prominent position he had to occupy in important and extensive business concerns, that all should be regulated according to the Christian standard of uprightness and integrity.

A few years after his marriage, which took place in his 25th year, the hymn commencing—

"I asked the Lord that I might grow
In faith, and love, and every grace,—
Might more of His salvation know,
And seek more earnestly His face."

arrested his attention: he committed it to memory, and referring to the circumstance to one of his sisters, during his last illness, he remarked that such had been his experience.

He was not in the practice of keeping a regular diary, but some extracts from his few memoranda will show the state of his mind.

"1st of Third month, 1848. This day I have been proposed an Overseer; all I could do was to weep in humbleness of heart, that I was even *thought* worthy to take such an important office. I feel I cannot refuse it. May it through Divine grace be a means of strength and watchfulness on my own behalf, and O may I not hurt the

precious cause of Christ in the minds of others. Wilt thou, O Lord, who hast mercifully preserved me hitherto, and hast given me to feel how great thy mercy and love are, continue to help me, and for my dear Saviour's sake, forgive former iniquities, and enable me to renew my covenant with thee."

"Fifth-day, 29th of Seventh month, 1852. On rising this morning, I felt so much oppressed with the care and anxieties of business that the burden of my prayer was, for a little lightening of the load, and I trust also for greater faith that I might see a way open for an escape from undue anxiety respecting it. I attended meeting in much about the same state, but just before it closed the words were uttered by — , 'Why art thou cast down, O my soul, and why art thou disquieted within me? Hope thou in God, for I shall yet praise Him, who is the health of my countenance and my God.' This was the same passage of Scripture that several years since was brought so clearly before me in the middle of the night, as I lay under even deeper depression than at the present time."

"First-day, 18th of Second month, 1855. My birthday, 43. The verse for the day in my text-book was 'The Lord preserveth the simple, I

was brought low and he helped me.' This safe place is where I want to dwell; to be nothing and desire nothing, but simply to lie at the feet of Jesus, attentively listening to the blessed words that proceed out of his mouth. May my prayer this evening be for his gracious help, to *keep* me in this childlike state."

"20th of Eighth month, 1835. I feel bound to record for my future help when tried and tossed in the midst of temptation, that, after having passed through much distress of mind, under the feeling of having wandered from the path of peace, in permitting my thoughts to dwell upon sinful subjects, I have *sensibly* experienced the blessed forgiving presence of Him who has said, 'Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavily laden' (with sin or otherwise), 'and I will give you rest.' So mercifully have I felt this that I could exclaim—'Return unto thy rest, O my soul, for the Lord hath dealt bountifully with thee. May I praise thee, O Lord, even as on the banks of deliverance.'"

He was called to pass through close trials in the illness and early death of several of his dearly loved children; in these dispensations he was a bright example of cheerful submission to the will of his Heavenly Father, and was ever