

**MEMOIR OF THOMAS THRUSH, ESQ.,
FORMERLY AN OFFICER OF RANK IN
THE ROYAL NAVY WHO RESIGNED HIS
COMMISSION ON THE GROUND OF
THE UNREASONABLENESS OF WAR**

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Memoir of Thomas Thrush, Esq., Formerly an Officer of Rank in the Royal Navy Who Resigned His Commission on the Ground of the Unreasonableness of War by C. Wellbeloved

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C. WELLBELOVED

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MEMOIR
OF
THOMAS THURSH, Esq.,

FORMERLY

AN OFFICER OF RANK IN THE ROYAL NAVY:

WHO RESIGNED HIS COMMISSION ON THE GROUND OF THE
UNREASONABLENESS OF WAR.

BY

REV. C. WELLBELOVED.

"How little are all external things in comparison with eternal interests. Fear God and conscience. The hope of a Christian, the spirit of a man, should keep down every other fear. When once our duty has been ascertained, we have nothing to do with the consequences of it. These are in the hands of the best Friend we have."—CAPT.

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TO
MRS. THRUSH,
AS A TESTIMONIAL OF HIGH RESPECT,
FOR THE
STEADINESS WITH WHICH SHE MAINTAINED THE PRINCIPLES
AND THE
FORTITUDE WITH WHICH SHE SHARED THE TRIALS
OF HER LATE REVERED HUSBAND,
AN INTREPID CONFESSOR IN THE CAUSE OF SACRED TRUTH,
THE FOLLOWING MEMOIR
IS DEDICATED
BY HER SINCERE AND FAITHFUL FRIEND,
THE AUTHOR.

M E M O I R,

&c.

HOWEVER gratifying it may be to Friendship to offer a public tribute of respect to the memory of one who has been long and deservedly an object of our esteem and affection, yet if the virtues by which he has been endeared to us have been strictly of a private character, displayed in the retired or the ordinary scenes and circumstances of life, it may be doubtful how far an attempt to bring them into public view may be consistent with propriety, or likely to prove successful. But when the individual who has been esteemed and loved in private, has been in any degree distinguished by his labours to promote the public good, and especially when, in the cause of truth and righteousness, he has not only laboured, but suffered reproach; when, to his own serious inconvenience and loss, he has resolutely and perseveringly followed the dictates of an enlightened conscience,—then

Friendship, while it seeks its own gratification in recording the actions of such a life, discharges a sacred public duty, and becomes a fellow labourer with him, whose memory it strives to honour, in the great cause of religion and virtue. Such are the principles which have influenced the writer of the following Memoir.

THOMAS THRUSH, the subject of this Memoir, was born at Stockton-upon-Tees, in the county of Durham, on the 14th of January, in the year 1761. His father, William Thrush, was the eldest son of a respectable yeoman of Kirkleatham in Cleveland, a district in the North Riding of Yorkshire. In his youth he had a strong desire to go to sea, but his parents not approving of this, bound him an apprentice to a tradesman at Stockton, where he afterwards settled as an ironmonger. In the year 1749 he married Jane Rogers, an orphan, and niece of Mr. G. Jackson, a person of some property at Coatham, in the parish of Kirkleatham, by whom she was brought up. The marriage was clandestine; Miss Rogers being at that time at school, and not more than fifteen years of age. They continued to reside at Stockton, till the death of the uncle in 1762; to whose property,

consisting chiefly of an extensive and valuable farm, they succeeded. Unfortunately, Mr. Thrush determined to relinquish his business at Stockton, and to take the management of this farm into his own hands. The consequences soon proved such as might have been foreseen. Inexperienced in agricultural affairs, being of somewhat an eccentric character, fond of society, and a pleasant companion, devoting a large share of his attention to the study of astronomy, and even of astrology, in the practice of which he obtained a high degree of reputation among his neighbours, his land was neglected, and his affairs became seriously deranged. At the end of seven years, during which his family had been continually increasing, through the earnest entreaties of his more prudent wife he consented to relinquish his farm and return to his former occupations. He accordingly entered upon his business again, at Richmond, in the North Riding of Yorkshire; with good reason to hope that with prudence and assiduity he might retrieve his affairs and secure a comfortable provision for his rising family. But such was not the will of divine Providence. He had but just entered upon this new situation, when an accidental fall from his horse brought to a