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ANNUAL MONITOR

For 1876,

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OBITUARY

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OF THE

MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

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In Great Britain and Freland,

FOR THE YEAR 1875.

LONDON: SOLD BY SAMUEL HARBIS AND CO., AND R. MARSH. WILLIAM BRESSIONS, 15, LOW OURSCATE, YORK. 1875.

LIST OF MEMOIRS.

Introductory Remarks.

Hannah M. Bevan. Elizabeth Brady. Lucretia Cadbury. John Fell Christy. John Cowgill. John Dodshon. Sarah Dymond. John Ford. Rebecca P. Fox. Sarah Hallam. Sarah Hallam. Maria Jackson. Joseph Jones. Mary Levitt. Arthur E. Lidbetter. Samuel Moorhouse. George Morris. Susanna Neave. Lucy Newsom. Carolina Norton. Hannah Ord. George P. Rickman. John Stephens. Sarah Wilson. Hannah Wilson. Rebecca Worth.

Samuel Fox. John Hodgkin.

APPENDIX.

Sarah Benson Mather.

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Errata in last year's Volume.

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p. 110. Maria Nodal,—age 63, not 69. p. 157. Henry Scarnell,—omit " died at."

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INTRODUCTORY REMARKS.

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During the twelve months to which this volume refers, again have upwards of three hundred of our Friends passed off the stage of life;--the great majority (that is, about two thirds of the whole), in advanced years beyond the age of sixty. This however is only our mortal existence; the immortal spirit returns to Him who gave it.

"An angel's arm can't snatch me from the grave ; Legions of angels can't confine me there."

We are happy in being able again, in such a record, to present instructive and encouraging accounts of the Christian lives and deaths of many, setting forth the glorious efficacy of Divine grace, when received in faith through Christ by the Holy Spirit. "Ye are washed, and ye are sanctified, and ye are justified, in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the spirit of our God." (1 Cor. vi. 11.) With every variety of character and circumstance, this grace is sufficient for us. It enables us to glorify God in every condition on earth : and when our bodies are lodged in " that home of man where dwells the multitude," it opens before us the everlasting doors. The poet of Life, Death, and Immortality writes,

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"The chamber where the good man meets his fate, Is privileged beyond the common walk Of virtuous life,—quite in the verge of Heaven. For here resistless demonstration dwells : A deathbed 's a detector of the heart. You see the man,—you see his hold on Heaven, If sound his virtue, as Philander's sound."

It is indeed a regretful, and often a depressing thought, to remember that our dearest friends are taken away never to return,—their place left void ! . the wisdom they possessed, the learning they had acquired, their power of reason, and eloquence of tongue, the service which they rendered as no other could, the special talents that made them valuable to society, no more available,—all gone,— "blotted from the things that be !" The place that hath known them shall know them no more. Who now shall fill their places? Another generation cometh. The church enquires, is there in that new soil seed growing, that shall yield the like fruit? The sower of the good seed is still at work,—are there honest and good hearts to receive it, and bring forth according to their measure? The master of the house still gives out talents to his servants, to be increased by diligence and faithfulness; and He still condemns the unfaithful and slothful who use not his gifts aright, and make no increase. But the Lord can renew his church : the lip of truth declared, "God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham."

It is of Christ's fulness that we all receive what measure of grace we have, and grace upon grace : and if any man lack wisdom, let him ask of God, who giveth to all men liberally; and it shall be given him if he ask in faith. This is abandantly confirmed by the example and the testimony of those who have gone before us, and it should stimulate us to seek after spiritual gifts, in a personal dedication to the cause of our blessed Saviour and His truth. "He mourns the dead, who lives as they desire." When the veil of mortality is laid aside, and the soul enters into the unspeakable glory, what would the dead desire for those left behind, but the closest union and the strictest fealty to Christ Jesus the Lord ? and that they should aspire after these attainments beyond all earthly reputation and success?



"I wish them to know," said a man of eminent endowments, " that it is a message from my deathbed, with my love."

Thus being led to live and walk in the spirit, we become instructed in the mind of Christ, are brought out of the devious paths of the world into the straight and narrow way that leadeth to Life Eternal, and (to quote from the yearning words of a pious mother addressed to her grandchild), " having been enabled to choose the things that are excellent, it may be our happy experience so to grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ, as to be kept from setting bounds to the obedience He requires, both in words and actions."

J. NEWBY.

ACKWORTH, 12 mo., 1875.

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