

The Autobiography of Leonard Wheatcroft.

WITH NOTES IN BRACKETS [] BY REV. CHAS. KERRY.



ANOTHER interesting Derbyshire relic—the autobiography of Leonard Wheatcroft—has been placed in our hands for publication in this journal by the Rev. Nich. Milnes, to whose kindness we were indebted for the poems and memoranda of this Derbyshire worthy published in vol. xviii. of this *Journal*.

The little MS. of twenty-four leaves, and measuring 5 inches by 3 inches, is stitched in a brown calf binding, formerly secured by small clasps, and bearing the word “GALLEN,” with “1660” impressed or stamped on the first cover. As there does not appear to have been any original connection between the cover and its contents, and since no copy of any of Galen’s works would appear to have been in Leonard’s library, the name may be simply intended for G. Allen. A slip, probably intended for a sort of title page, has been inserted at the commencement, evidently by Leonard himself, inscribed:—

“A History of my Birth, Parantage
And Pilgrimage who was
Borne May the first 1627
and was Buried”—

[The hiatus has probably been supplied by his son, Titus.]

“January 3
1706: and was clerk 36 years
Aged 79 years and 8 moentshs.”

At the head of his autobiography, on the first page, we have—

“A history of the Life and Pilgrimage of
Leonard Wheatcrofte of Ashover.”

“I was through God’s Providence borne upon May day in the yeare of our Lord God 1627, in the Raigne of King Charles the First. My father’s name was also Leonard, son to John Wheatcroft and Mary his wife, who was daughter to William Daine. My mother’s name was Anne. She was daughter to John Harrison and Mary his wife, and I was the firstborne to them both, who had in all 6 sonns and 3 daughters.

“Then did it please God that at forty years of age my father dyed of a fever, and was buried in Ashover Chirch yard on Saint Tantru’s day [St. Andrew’s] in the year 1648,—witness his Toumbe [vol. xix. 42]. I was then almost 20 years ould; part of which time I was a Tayler with my father, and after his death I taught 4 of my brothers that trade.” [He appears to have been impressed with a sense of duty to his widowed mother and her charge as long as he might safely remain at home.]

“Then was there wars in England betwixt King and Parliament: then was father against son, and son against father, and brother against brother. Then did I run vp and downe the cuntry to save myselfe from being a soulger, but at last I was forced to take vp armes, and was a soulger ffor the space of 8 or 9 years. I shall say little of soulgers now, but tell you what I did, and what hap’ned in the Intrim [*interim*] and so go on.

“In the yeare 1649 I set y^e Horse medow hedge, and the whiging [*quickset*] before the doore, and the first Sabath in May 1650, I began to be Clarke of the Church, in which place I continued for the space of 13 years. I was also the Parrish Regetr [Registrar], on both which offices I waited, but when occasion of soulgery tooke me off; for about 1653 I began to be a soulger.

“And in 1655 I went a wooing to my wife, and was above two years before I was married to her. I shall not tell you here

what hap'ned in our wooing, for you may find it at large in my book of "Mirth and Melody" [see vol. xviii. 35, 40, etc.].

"In 1657 I was married, being May 20, by the Justis of Peace—it was then Oliver's Law. We had a great wedding for many dayes togather. I had above two hundred and twenty messes to it, and in my Booke of accounts you may find what meate and drinke I provided to your admiration. [Unfortunately this book seems to be lost.]

"In 1651 (I should have said before), I planted an Orchard for Master Bourne. The year after, did my grandfather Harison dye, 1652.

"In 1657, I builded the parler and chamber over it, and in 1658, the shop: but before these, I builded my mother's buttry and paved the house: then I went up to Lundon. And after my retourne, I spent sum of my estate. Then did I let my house, and went to live at Boulsover in 1654. There did I live for the space of four years, in which time I planted one orchard for Esquire Huchingson and another for . . . of Duckmanton. I took there one malthouse and malted a great deale of barley; and there I had two children by my wife—John and David; but before I went to Boulsover, I had three children, Leonardus, Anna, and Ester; but as for the years and time that they were borne, I shall speak of (that) hereafter and place them altogether for memory's sake.

"In the year 1666, that was while I lived at Boulsover, I planted both Orchards at Overton Hall, made them their gardens, and [planted the] close hedges, and set several Wall Trees, and a codling hedge.

"Sumtimes at my trade, and sumtimes in planting and replanting, I spent my foure years time at Boulsover, and withal *sixscore pound to y^e hundred.*

"So being resolved to retourne to Ashoure againe, I came ouer Jan. 4 1667, intending to take a house there, but could get none according to my mind. Then at my retourne Justis Woolhous dyed, upon whom I writ an Epitaffe which you may find in my booke of verses amongst severall others [see *Journal* xviii. 76],

and after that I was busy about sum sutes and troubles that I was in, that I was forced to run and ride up and downe to seeke moneys, but get little, tho I stood in great need, for my wife was just at "*bating of child*" [at the point of confinement]. Not long after she was delivered of a son (Mar. 30, 1668) whose name was [called] David. He was christened April 14, at Boulsover. After that I went to Ashover againe, and there was an ancient maid dead whose name was Eline Bower upon whom I writ an Epitaff.

"After that, I toke a jorney above 50 miles to see sum freinds, and withall parson Chadwicke's lady then at Bakwell. So running up and downe, and being careless in spending what I got, *and more*, my goods was taken for rent, and I could never redeeme sum of them. Then was I forced to take 3 of my children ouer to Ashover and Winster for my freinds to take care of till I was better provided. I did endure many troubles for two years in 1667 and 1668. I was 3 times taken prisoner for debt, so that I was forced to make bad bargins for money, and first paune [pawn] then sell my land and Inheritance, so that at last I was forst [forced] to move the Parrish of Ashover for a house vpon the Common, but they would not graunt it because I had not absolutely sould all I had.

"I was at that time in sum Trouble concerning one Columbell who was arrested at Boulsover, which caused me 3 jorneyes to Derby, 2 to Lunden, and 2 to Chesterfeild, whereby I suffered much damage, but the Partyes more, for they spent above 300 pounds a peece, and dyed wors than beggers.

"About Jan. 6, 1668, I and my man tooke in hand to go a jorney to Over-Haddon to see a woman that by Relation had receued noe food for the space of 40 weeks. With this maid I had much discorse of God, & Jesus Christ, of herselfe, & of her distemper. But no food she tooke meate or drinke for the space of many years after, as may be I shall hint of hereafter concerning her condition." [This was Martha Taylor, who it is said began to abstain from food on 22nd December, 1667, being in her 18th year. Her abstinence is said to have been

caused by a blow received some years before. She underwent two watches, having been attended by some forty to sixty women who watched strictly night and day. One of these watches was appointed by the neighbouring townships, the other by the Earl of Devonshire. Four different pamphlets were published, one by Joseph Reynolds, and addressed to the Royal Society: the last extant is dated March 30th, 1669. By an entry in the Parish Register it appears she was buried June 12th, 1684, having survived the publication of the last pamphlet fifteen years. There is no account as to whether she was detected as an impostor, or whether she was a real sufferer, and having recovered, returned to her usual habits. It is probable some of these pamphlets might have fallen into the hands of the notorious impostor, Ann Moore, the fasting woman of Tutbury, who also is said to have been a native of Derby. The latter pretended to have lived without eating or drinking from 1807 till 1813, when her case was discovered to be a fraud.]*

“Jan. 21, 1668, I came to Bouldsoure againe but I was resolved not long to stay there because they were base crosse Neighbours, so to Ashover I went againe. There did I take a house of John Farnworth at which house I lived 4 years. There did my wife begin to sell Alle, and so did continew for many years after. I took this house Aprill 5, 1669, but stayed at Boulsover until April 17, on which day I and my wife and 4 of my children came to Ashover, where many of our ould Neighbours bade us hartily welcome home againe, tho’ our substance was but small then, for both my wife and I could make (*possessed*) but two pence in brasse at that time; but it pleased God I did soone fall to worke amongst my ould customers and get moneys againe.

“June 7. I went to Bouldsoure for sum of my goods I had left behind. After I came home I went to Winster to fetch home the rest of my children, and soone after (June 24) was

* See Bradshaw's *History of Derby*, p. 413.

Ashover Wakes, [when] Mother Hawley and many more came to Ashover for to wellcome us to house again. In the same week I went towards Lundon to be an evidance for Cullenbell as I said befor. After my retourne, then to Derby 'size [assize] about the same [matter].

"After these long jorneyes I and my man went to a great bull-beating at Wensley; then to my mother-in-law's at Winstler, where I had much discours with my Relations. Some of these did [ap]poynt to meete me at Matlock Wakes which was about Sep. 2, 1669, and according to promis they came. There did my mother-in-law give me five pounds, with which I came merrily home. Then did my wife and I (Sep. 6) go to Boul-souer for some more goods, * which came home by a drought. †

"Then having a little set my house in order, and provided work for my sarvants, I had occasion to go to London againe; and upon Tuesday Nov. 23, I arrived there where I stayed till Nov. 27. All that time I spent in walking up and downe about Law matters. I had then a very fowle jorney by reason of foule weather frost snowe and raine.

"Dec. 11. I fetched more goods from Boul-souer and placed them at home.

"Then Dec. 27, 1669, I went with brother Samueller to his wedding at Trinity Chapell."

[This wedding is recorded in the Morton Church Register, for this chapel was in the old parish of Morton before Brackenfield was formed into a separate Ecclesiastical district. The entry is as follows:—"Samueller Whetcroft of Ashover and Ann Chadwick of Wirksworth were married by Licence 27 December 1669."

This ancient but now disused chapel lies in Brackenfield on the lower slope of an off-shoot of High-Ordish, one of the highest summits in the district. The approach to the chapel is about a hundred yards beyond "Mather's Grave," on the way to Knot Cross and Ashover from Brackenfield. It is now

* Probably left in pledge.

† By wain and oxen.

so embowered in trees that no distant view of it can be obtained. This old sanctuary was dismantled at the erection of the present Church of Brackenfield, where its ancient rood-screen may be seen attached to the west wall of the nave.

The font, a modern fluted bason (c. 1800) with its shaft similarly adorned, now stands on the vicarage lawn. Trinity Chapel is rapidly falling into ruin. It consists of one rectangular block with a continuous roof from east to west, covered with slabs of stone. There are only three windows—one at the east end and two on the south side, all square-headed with chamfered stone mullions, but without tracery. A large stone, which has been thought to have been the mensa of the ancient altar, lies under the east window within. A porch with a flat-headed doorway is on the south side. The fabric possesses a most picturesque bell turret with two openings of very Norman-like character, but hardly so early—it has, however, a quaint beauty seldom met with, and it is a pity that it should be destined ere long to become a thing of the past. A few of the old oak benches (rude forms, I believe, without backs) still remain in the building. There is no chapel yard, and no interments have been permitted to take place there.

The site for the chapel has been cut out of the rocky hill side, and the bell turret at the west end rises but a few feet above the slope of the hill.

The chapel appears to have been erected but a short time before the Reformation, perhaps about 1520—1530.

In the Churchwardens' accounts of Morton we find, 1634, "Item, given to a poore woman of Duffield upon Trinitie Sunday (the Wakes) at the Chapell by the consent of the P'shners there, which had her house burnt away—2^s."

In vol. xix. of this *Journal*, p. 108, will be found the monumental inscriptions of the Revs. William and Peter Wilson, successively ministers of this chapel, on a high tomb in Morton churchyard.] Leonard continues:—

"After that I went to Winster and wrought there 7 dayes before I returned.

“Upon Jeul [? July] 28, I went to a faire at Chesterfeild where I staid all night, and as I came hom I help'd my vnckell Anthoney Ragge to flit to his new hous which he had built in the 'Hostige': this was in Aprill 1670.

“In May after, I tooke a cow to the hire of my ant [*aunt*] Frances Norman, which did please my wife and children well, for they had had none to give them milk for 2 years before.

“Vpon Saturday June 18, I went to Chesterfeild to louse [*redeem*] some goods I had pauned 2 years before and brought them home: the week after was Ashover Wakes, upon which Even (the Church is dedicated to All Saints) my wife was brought to bed of a daughter *June 25th*, 1670, whom afterwards we called Elizabeth.”

[I cannot reconcile the Eve of the Wakes Sunday with June 25th—for as All Saints' Day always falls on the 1st of November, the Eve of that festival would be on the last day of October. Can the Church have had a later dedication to All Saints, while the villagers retained an earlier dedication festival for their wakes? If so, it is probable that the first dedication of Ashover Church may have been to S. John Baptist (June 24th). Dr. Cox, in his *Churches of Derbyshire*, writes: “In more than one Directory for the county, Ashover Church is said to be dedicated to S. John, but on what authority we know not:—the *Liber Regis*, etc., etc., are unanimous as to its being under the protection (? invocation) of All Saints.” The Church evidently then was re-dedicated to All Saints at the extensive re-construction about the commencement of the sixteenth century, whilst the original dedication festival connected with S. John Baptist was retained.]

“Shee was baptized July 23 and my wife churched y^e same day. After that I traveled many wayes vp and downe the cuntry, and at last strained my anckell to my much sorrow for many dayes, and upon my jorney Sep. 25, I was lost in my way, and at last I found a marke upon the mores, vpon which marke I writ this verse heare following:—

“Great Monement for my content
 I’le rest me heare a while ;
 Had’st thou not beene, for me to’ve seene,
 I’d’e wandred many a mile.”

“After I had rested awhile, the mists cleared up, and it ceased from snowing.” [The track over the moors was clearly obliterated by the snow storm, and hence our traveller missed his way. This will form the key to an otherwise unaccountable proceeding of Leonard’s further on.]

“Then I set forwards againe, and after I had travelled about 4 or 5 miles, I arrived at that famous house called Chatsworth, where for a certaine time I stayed to behould the Beauty and rare Work-man-ship of it. And from thence I went to Stoney Middleton where I stayed for a certaine time to refreshe myself and ease my weary limbes : and from thence to Padley where I met with some freinds y^t I had long sought. My business with them was to borrow money, but none would they lend unless I would mortgage land to them for it. So finding noe good to be dun, I returned home againe. That jorney was about 30 miles. Then did my son Leo and I go to Winster, and accoynted my mother Hawley with it, and she paid y^e debt : it was 5 poundes ; so we cum merrily hom, and for a memoriall we erected by the way 4 heapes of stones betwixt Matlock and Ashover which we judged would stand to many generations : this was done Oct. 5, 1670.”

[The first impression this apparently romantic act naturally causes is, its manifest absurdity. Leonard, however, had only just been lost in a snowstorm on a bleak and desolate moor, and was only reminded of his exact locality by some familiar stone ; and anyone who is acquainted with the way (then an almost unbeaten track) across Tansley Moor, between Matlock and Ashover, must be struck with the almost patriotic spirit shewn by Leonard in the erection of these *Winter* land marks, to guide the traveller along the snow-hidden tracks. It was done as an act of thanksgiving, and *for the good of the general public*. Whatever may have been his faults and his improvidence

in the waste of his time, in wakes and fair-going, this most *unselfish* and *thoughtful* act raises him at once above the ordinary level, and places him among the honorable list of public benefactors.]

“Upon Oct. 31, I went to Boulsover againe, it being the 19th time that I had been there since I brought my wife and children from thence. The reason I went so often thither was because I had some goods left there, and moreover, I wrought for Justis Chadwick and some others.

“Vpon November 23, 1670, I, with severall more of the Parrish of Ashover, went to Derby to give our voats for a knight for ye shire, whose name was William Sacheverill, of Morley; but there was another stood against him, whose name was Esqr. Varnon. I stayed a whole weeke before ale was dun, in which time I writ this prophesie—

“Shout out, brave Blades, I am for Cheurill,
Let Varnon’s friends do what ye can or will,
He is our voat, whose voat for us will be,
Pleasing to us and to his Maiestee,” &c. *

“These verses are in my booke of poetry, with another prophesie of verses which I writ in the year 1678, when he and my Lord Cavendis was chosen againe. I also writ a booke of divinity, called by the name of ‘The Bright Starre of Love.’ I was one-and-twenty years before I had finished it for the Pres.

[This work is not extant, nor is it probable that it was ever published.]

“Nayther was I negligent in other affairs, for, for many years I writ down in a book all my daly expenses: that was a great trouble to me to looke over againe and behould my vanity and folly.

[Well done, Leonard! He did not flinch the unpleasant task of beholding himself in the mirror of his recorded frailties. Retrospection is a duty too often neglected.]

* (See *Journal* xviii., p. 48).

"But as for my daly travills and idle jorneyes to and fro, they came to above 550 miles a yeare, which I believe I went for above 20 years together, as my accounts shewed me.

"Dec. 25, 1670. Being Christmas Day I went to pay for a stacke of hay I had bought at Tupton. After that, in the time of Chrismus I went with a freind and kinsman of mine vnto one Francis Steevinsons who had a mind to sell his land, for which we bad him 400 and 60 pounds, but it would not be taken vnles my freind would give 20 pound more, which he would not, and so we parted. But he sould it for les after, and now goes vp and down the cuntry like a begger.

"Jan. 1. I fell to worke and rought very hard till Feb. 19.

[Perhaps Leonard's retrospect of time wasted had inspired better resolves for the new year. A closer application to the needle seems to have been the result for a time; but a little respite from the board was now no doubt thought desirable.]

"That day I fetched Mr. Daykin (of Stubben Edge) a vine and a cherry tree from Bateman's [? of Youlgrave] so I continued gardening till Feb. 28. That day being Chesterfeild faire day, I, like a bad lad, went to it, and staid there all night.

"March 7, being Fassen-Tuesday [Shrove Tuesday] my wife and I according to our ould custom went over to Winster to se our relations and freinds.

"March 11. I had sum notions of being clarke of the Church of Workesworth, and the 16th day I went over to speak to sum freinds of whom I had good hopes of the place, but preveled not.

"June 4, 1671, my wife and I went over vnto Winster againe to the christening of my Brother Robard's child whose name was Eliz. After that I rought hard at my trade till July 25. That day I thought to have built me a house at Sir William's Well [probably a corruption of St. William's Well], but our goodly Parson Obediah—y^t *small profit*—would not suffer it, because I had pulled down his father's '*Intack*' [enclosure of waste land] in Asher Hill. Then did I fall on my owne ground and began to rid for a house stid, in a place which I call now by the name

of Hockley. But how that will prove, you shall heare more here-after.

“So going on with my trade and with my gardening and ridding, I writ down these questions following :

1. What is the Reason that one man is not like another in Phisogmony? [*Physiognomy.*]

2. What mettall is the sight of the eye made of?

3. Why have men Beardes and women none?

6. What is the cause sum men and women stut? [Stammer.]

7. What is the cause sum men and women *wharl*? [An inability to pronounce the letter “ R.”]

8. What is the cause we dreame of things wee never saw, or knew, or ever heard of?

10. What is the cause of our yoaning [yawning] when we see another yoane?

11. What is the cause a cat never puts her taile betwixt her leggs?

13. What creature hath the least pleasure in the world?

14. What is the cause some children are hare-shorne, and others mis-shapen?

17. What is y^e cause a swine goes not like another creature that is yoak’t, but hits is yoake w^t his fore-feet as he goes?

18. What is y^e cause that a goose stoopes when she goes thorow [through] a high doore?

20. What is y^e cause a man swings his arms when he goes by the way?

21. Why doth a dogge hold up one leg when he pisseth?

22. What is y^e cause a swine will cry when his belly is full?

23. Why doth a dogge hould up a fore-foot when he listeneth?

24. What is y^e cause that a “shirm-but” or “clock” lights most in a Cow tourt?

29. What is the cause a dogge shews his love most in his taile?

[There are thirty of these questions, but some are better omitted.]

“Aug. 26. I went on sum busines to Matlocke, and upon Aug. 31 I went againe to y^e Wakes, where I met with one Antony Souter with whom I bargined to plant an orchard, and vpon Sep. 25 I began. On that day I removed 45 trees, and Oct. 5, 14 trees at Mr. Coates garden. The 16 day, I tuned the Virginalls at Overton.

[A virginal—either so called from the Virgin Queen, or because it afforded musical recreation for the unmarried—was the precursor of the spinet, as the latter was of the harpsichord, the forerunner of the modern grand piano—but with this difference, the vibration of the wires of the earlier instruments was produced by pointed quills inserted in extremities of the key rods. The leathered hammers are a more modern invention. Col. Coke, of Brookhill, possesses the spinet (perhaps from the word “spinster”) used by Miss Chaworth, of Byron celebrity.]

“Upon the 25 of August, my wife and I went to Will. Hibard’s to a feast of Crispin where we was merry that night.

“So in gardening and Taylering I spent my time: till the 4 day of Feb. 1671, being Sunday, I with my wife and 2 children went over to Winster, to brother Ralph’s wive’s churching (of her daughter Betty). There we were forced to stay till Feb. 12 before I could get them home by reason of a great snow that then did fall.

“After our retourne, I went to Chesterfeild Faire, which was then Feb. 28, 1671. There I did buy of one Richard Cempe [Kemp] 52 quarters of malt, and a horse of John Buxton my brother; the malt was at 20^s the quarter all y^e yeare; t’horse price was 37^s.

“Mar. 26, 1672, I bargined with John Farnsworth for his house another yeare till I had made mine ready, for which I was to pay three pound seven shillings the yeare. Wedensday after being Apr. 17, was a fast day for our preparation against y^e Duch [Dutch].

“July 10, 1672, I and my wife besides 100 more went to Ashley Heay to welcome Brother Toby and Sister Sarah to house, who was then lately married.

[Compare this with the festivities at Leonard's own wedding celebrated for eleven days, during which two hundred persons were hospitably entertained (*Journal* xviii. 42).]

"At my retourne my son Leo and I went to Mr. Sleight, where we made a bed and 12 chears in 6 days.

[Besides the inventory of Books (printed in vol. xix.) there was another of joiner's tools—with lathes and various chisels, which must have belonged to Leonard, who seems to have been an *all round man*, and highly accomplished in almost every useful art—tailoring, gardening, tuning virginals, carpentering, turning, &c., &c.]

"Then I went to Mr. Coates to dresse him a Jacke, and cord some beds, and the like. ["Jacke"—either a soldier's leather jerkin, or perhaps a jacket. May it be a leathern jug which had become unstitched?—a black jack.]

"All this while my Bulding was going forwards, and I seeking out for timber and other materials as framing of windows and doores till Oct. 27, when I did finish Antoney Souter's orchard at Tansley.

"You may heare take notis that in all this discorse I have said nothing of soulgery, for I writ all my doings and actions in another booke. I was soulger in the dayes of King and Parli-ment, and all Oliver's dayes till the King came in againe, which was Charles 2, who of his clemancy and goodnes granted to us all (excepting those who were excessary to his father's death) an act of indemnity, &c.

"Till 1673, and all that yeare I did many things of noate; I writ a Catechisme titeled '*A Free Gift to Ashouer Free Schoole*,' and other memorable things now in writing.

"Mar. 26, 1673, I set that Sick-a-more at the 'Rodd,' and upon May 2 after, I came to my ould house againe which I had mortgaged to one Antoney Tourner, but like a good lad, I sould it about 2 years after, for I was in sum debt and nothing would serve crrditors but Money, Money.

"And moreover, the same day, I came to my house againe, and my wife fell a labour and was brought abed of a son whose name

we called Sollomon, May 2, 1673. So then being arived at my owne house againe, I ceased to buld me a new one, but repared my ould one which was left me foule, and out of order, so as five pounds did not make it good againe; for one beay of my barne was fallen, besides windowes *sawat* [knocked] all in peeces.

[Leonard seems to have completed the house still standing at Hockley in 1676. Over the lower window, but immediately stone bearing the his wife Elizabeth, beneath, but separated chevron.]

L. E. W.

1676.

Over the lower window, but immediately stone bearing the his wife Elizabeth, beneath, but separated chevron.]



HOUSE BUILT BY LEONARD WHEATCROFT, ASHOVER, 1676.

“In 1674 I began to write another booke called ‘*The Memory’s Recreation*,’ but if I live to make it out, you will all be better satisfied and I cumended; however, the copy of it you may find among the rest of my writings in my Libry.

“Oct. 2 being Friday, 1675, was my wife brought abed of a daughter whose name we call Maddum Sarah.

“My wife continued all this while a brewing, and I wrought and did what I could, so that it pleased God we did a little recover againe, and got ourselves and children close [clothes], paid sum debt, *and so by degrees gained our freinds again.*

[Keen observer of the world! When money goes friends go too; but with recovering prosperity they gradually return.]

“I put Leo and Ester to Darby to learne sum better worke and Breeding, after that to Nottingham. In the meane while I was taking care of some water workes which were then at Youlgreave, in which I had some share, and for three or four years I was employed about that business, of which I shall say more hereafter.

“In the year 1678, Blessed be God, I was able to give, as before I was willing to receive, for in that yeare I gave money towards bulding of Paul’s Church, in Lundon, which y^e Papist Plotters had destroyed and bournt by fire before, in y^e year ’70.

“In the yeare 1679, the Engeneare, James Wass by name, came to Youlgreave, to dreane our waterworks, but his engine would not do it, so was I and many more much damnified by it, and he likewise to the vallew of 300 pounds. In that yeare, July 4, was my wife brought abed of a son, whom we called Titus, he the 5th son and the eleventh child. But to tell you all their names that are now alive, and when they were borne, and under what planet, is as followeth (Aug. 12, 1679):—

1. Leonardus was Borne May 30, 1659, about 2 o’clocke in the afternoone.

2. Anna was Borne July 29, 1661, being Munday in the afternoone about 5 a’clocke. Then did Capricor rule.

3. Ester was Borne Novem. 16, 1663, being Wodensday in the

afternoone about 3 a'clocke. She died March 16, 1751, aged 88. [The obit. in another hand.]

4. John, my second son, was Borne June the 14, 1666, between the hours of 11-12 in the night. Then did Aris enter.

5. David, my 3 son, was borne Mar. 30, being Munday, about 6 a'clocke at night. Then did Pissis enter.

6. Elizabeth, my 3 daughter, was borne June 25, 1670, being Saturday betweene y^e howers of 7-8. Then did Aquaris rule. She died Octo. 3, 1751, aged 81. [Another hand.]

7. Sollomon, my 4 son, was Borne May 3, being Friday morning about one a'clocke. Then did Aris enter in y^e yeare 1673.

8. Madum Sarah, my 4 daughter, was Borne Octo. 2, 1675, being Friday morn between the hours of 6-7. Then did Jupiter rule.

9. Titus, my 5 son, was borne July 4, 1679, being Friday morne about one a'clocke. Then did Vanus rule.

"After Titus was borne, the same year, 1679, I planted an orchard for Mr. Robert More, of Winster, wherin I set (with wall trees and others), above 200.

"From thens I went to Newhaven Faire where I was never before, which faire is alwaies upon Saint Luke day. That faire standes most by sheepe. It is held Oct. 18.

"After that, I went to Lenton Faire, to see two (of my children that lived at Nottingham where I had a long cummission with Mr. William Gladwin and severall other gentellmen for 2 dayes and 2 nights together. And at my retourne I and my wife went over to Winster unto a christning of a daughter of my wife's brother, John Buxton—called Mary.

"From thence, my son Leo and I went to Haddon where we stayed all night, and gave unto them sum verses of y^e death of that Honourable Lord John Manners, Earle of Rutland, as you may find them (among severall others) in my Booke of Poetry. [See vol. xviii., 77-78.]

"After that, I went to Stanton to dress an orchard for Mr. Colton, where I was 4 dayes, and at my retourne hom, I and my

wife went to Bonsall, to John Raggs, to the christening of his second child.

“Then did fortune so favour my daughter Ester at my retourne, that upon Apr. 9, 1679, I went with her to sarvis to a place called Routhorne, near Hardwick Hall, where she lived with one John Hardwicke for the space of 2 years.

“From thence I went along to a towne called Carlton, in Nottinghamshire, where my daughter Anna lived. From that place I brought her to one Mr. Horns, of Butterly, Apr. 13.

“So having settled her there, I retourned hom againe, doing severall workes of necessity, till at last the Injenere as I tould you before, came to Youlgreave againe, being May 15, 1680. Then did he begin with wheeles and *trickes* that summer; but all did worke no effect that I saw. So leaving him, as I came hom July 20, I set up 3 heapes of stones *for hey-way markes* betwixt Matlock and Ashover, and about Aug. 2 I went to Youlgreave againe to pay my grove [draining] charges, where I stayed all night. The next day did Mr. Bourne and Mr. Daykine cum to Youlgrave, and did informe me that Adam Cowlshaw was dead, and tould me if I would make hast hom I might very well be Clarke of y^e Parish again, to whose words I gave heed, and hom I went, and speaking to sum freinds, they did persuade the parson to entertain me, which he did, so as I entred vpon the office both of Clarke and Saxton August 6, 1680; and vpon the 9 day I began to teach Scoole, and had many schollers for the space of 2 years. In which time I went little abroad, only at Crismus I went to see my relations and friends, and what in seeing them and gathering of my clark-wages, I spent that Cristmus; and Feb. 4 my son Leo and I, each of us, went with ‘*abourne*’ [a burden] of trees to Winster and Brassington, to one Mr. Buxtons, who did very honestly pay me for them.

“Then upon Feb. 24 I drest Edward Hall’s orchard, of Houmgate. Then did my son Leonard desire me to suffer him to take a journey to Lunden, which I granted; and vpon Munday, March 11, 1680, I went with him agatward for the space of 7 or 8 miles, and Ester with me. So when we parted, I went with Ester

to her master's house, that was 8 miles more. The next day I came hom, and finding all well, the 15 day I went to Chatsworth upon sum businis for my master.

“After this, my daughter Anna came from Mr. Horn's, having served her whole yeare, and staying awhile at hom, I went with her to servis againe to Mr. Wollhouses, of Glapwell, being Apr. 20, 1681, where shee was liked very well, and so much of her.

“Since then, I stirred very little abroad, but only to feast and bankit [banquet] at nighbours houses, at weddings, and christnings. Indeed one day I went to see my sister Anne at Barlo, who lay sore, sicke, and weake, and another day to see my sister Mary, who lay in, and one day to see an aunt at Chesterfeild.

“After awhile I went to see my daughter Anna againe, but not before Aug. 11, and when I came home, I went to Derby with Mr. Couper, Aug. 18, the next day to Bakwell.

“Vpon Sept. 5 I had occasion to go to Chesterfeild, where I met with a bone-lace-weaver, with whom I bargined to take a daughter of mine apprentis, Elizabeth by name. So for 3 pounds 10 shillings we agreed, and bound she was, Sep. 14, being Chesterfeild faire day, for 4 years. But of her, more as occasion serves.

“Oct. 18, both I and my wife went to se our two daughters, Anna and Ester, at Glapwell and Routhorne, where we was very rarely entertained, and our children very much made of, to our joy and coumfort.

“And after our retourne we both went to Winster, it being Dec. 3, to se our parents and freinds, and after our retourne came both our daughters to se us, it being Crismus, and after 3 or 4 dayes sporting was ended amongst their breethren and freinds, so they all parted to their severall places of aboade.

“Jan. 6, I and Mr. Hodgkinson [probably Mr. Will, of Overton], went to Chatsworth, and on Jan. 30, we went to Barlborough, where we bought many trees. Then came we to Staly [Staveley] where we bought more, and to several other

places we went for trees of all sortes for to furnish a plantation about a new hall, which was new bult, called 'Clatercoates.' In which orchard and garden I planted in 1681 and '82 above 200 trees.

[This house is still standing, and is a very picturesque structure, with stone mullioned windows, ball-crowned pinnacles on the gables, etc. It stands by the way leading from Mill Town to Brackenfield.]

"The next bout I had of sporting was to brother William's weding, March 7, 1681, where we spent the day very joyfully in myrth and melody. He was married at Morton to Elizabeth Marriet.

["William Wheatcroft and Elizabeth Marriout were married by licence, 10 March, 1681."

Morton Register.]

"After that I heard from my son which lived in Lunden that he lived so well, and that he had a mind to have his brother John to cum vp to him, and that he would provide him a master, to which I and my wife gave consent to his jorney, and with all speed we got him ready, and towards Lunden he went Aprill 6, 1682. He had a very good jorney thither, and was well entertained both of his vnckell and brother and other freinds. So after a little tryall he bound himself for 4 years as appears by his letters to me. He was bound April 20, 1682. He was to have 2 pounds the first yeare, and 3 the second yeare, and 4 y^e third, and 5 pounds the last yeare, meat, drink, washing, and lodging, and some of his M^rould close, all which I liked well: and so much of him at present.

"But againe, John had not lived w^t his M^r above halfe a yeare but he dyed. Then did his vnckell John tak to him, and as a 'club' * he served him for 3 yeare.

"All that time he was with him till he cum down w^t his brother Leo to se his relations in the cuntry. In the interim all my

* A rough servant.

doughters came to see me, but still, I went no ways from hom but about my Clarkes concerns.

"In 1682, Jan. 12 I planted Thomas Bower of Gorse-hall [a fine old stone house in the valley opposite Knot Cross] an orchard. In that yeare my daughter Elizabeth's Dame dyed. Then was I at an '*on plus*' to seeke for another for her. And vpon Feb. 28, I went to Chasterfeild faire, where I lighted upon another dame one Mary Jenings to whom I bound her for 2 years, and sowne after she dyed, then my doughter came hom almost halfe a yeare. Then I went to see my doughter Anna at Glapwell, where I stayed grafting and planting for the space of 3 dayes.

"Then came I hom, and being perswaded by my neighbours that I would take upon me to teach a scoole, so I did, beginning May 1, '83, and vpon May 26 I went w^t my son David to Chesterfeild to be a Tayler w^t one Will. Webster, w^t whom he stayed one yeare. This was on Sep. 8 in the yeare 1684.

"After that I followed my occasions at hom, till at last I, not finding myself well, I sent to my souns at Lundon desiring to see them before I dyed. So according to my desire and their mother's, they came down to vs August 15, 1685. Then all the rest of my children com from their servises to give them the meeting whom they had not seen in 4 years time.

"So after they had rested awhile with me and told me all their trautils and adventures and cheared up their parents Mournfull sperits, we all concluded to go to our brother Robert Hawley's to a Wakes wh^h was there at that time, Sep. 4.

"After that, Anna went to live at John Thweates July 6, 1685, where she stayed for one yeare.

"Then did my doughter Betty goe to live with one Catrin Balme for 2 years. She was hired Oct. 26, 1685. And David was hired againe by my son Leonardus to one Samuell Higgins a London Taylor for 2 years Dec. 30, 1685. This year being Feb. 27, my son Leo and I went to Hather-seige where we beheld the grave where they say Little John was buried, which is 14 foot in length. After that we came to behould the famous

hall of Chatsworth, where we was well received, and withal had the happynes to view the house within, and without, which was most amiable and famous to behould. At last, coming to behould those admirable gardens and platformes, and those new-invented water-workes, I called to mind that I wanted my Anchent and much admirable crag : but finding that to be all gone and destroyed, I could forbere no longer, but immediately writ its Farewell, as you may find in my book of vesses—towards the later end.

“March 7, 1685, My son Leonardus was minded to go towardes Lunden againe, and then did all my children come together againe to take leave of him with severall more of our Relations to all our coumfort. The next day, taking his jorney forwards, we all departed to our severall places.

“After that, John (having recovered from his sickness) and I had occasion to go to Glapwell and Bousouer to see his godfathers and godmothers, where he was borne. There we were July 8, 9, 10, 1686, and on Feb. 3 John went to Lunden again where he stayed.

“And after him, David went Feb. 24, 1686, where he stayed waiting on King James the 2, to be touched by him for his infirmity called the *King's Evil*. There was he touched twice by him, but was never the better at his retourne.

[NOTE.—The office used at the healing was first compiled in the reign of Henry VII. The ceremonial used by Queen Anne was shorter than that used by her predecessors. The power of touching was also exercised by the son of James II. as James III. in the hospitals at Paris, and by Prince Charles Edward at Edinburgh.

In January, 1683, a proclamation was issued by the Privy Council and ordered to be published in every Parish in the Kingdom enjoining that the time for presenting persons for the “Public Healings” should be from the feast of All Saints (Nov. 1) till a week before Christmas, and after Christmas till March 1, and then to cease till Passion Week.

The service is printed in Sparrow's Collections of 1685 at p. 165.

Two Gospels were used—the first S. Mark xvi. 14. During the reading of this the King laid his hands on those presented (kneeling) at the words, "They shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover."

During the reading of the second Gospel taken from S. John chap. i. 1, at the words "That Light was the true Light," &c., the afflicted were again presented unto the King upon their knees, and the King "put his gold" about their necks.* Then followed the lesser Litany, Pater Noster and certain versicles, followed by "O Almighty God, who art the Giver of all health, and the Aid of them that seek to Thee for succour, we call upon Thee for Thy help and goodness mercifully to be shewed unto these Thy servants, that they being healed of their infirmity may give thanks unto Thee in Thy Holy Church through," &c., &c. "The grace," &c.]

"And when David was com hom, he and I went to see my sister Sarah at Shottle where she dwelt; and by the way a woman tould us how shee was cured of that disease: and after she was cured she was wed, and had 4 children, and never a one of them ever had that distemper. I saw the great scars that was upon her neck and throate. Her receipt was as followeth:—

"That a man might go to a dead woman or a woman to a dead man (as shee did) and with their dead hand touch all their affected or sore places, saying these words "He that send thee, I pray God mend thee." That must be done, and (these words) said 9 times over—which he (David) did Dec. 26, 1687.

* A coin placed in a little pouch and hung round the neck. Dr. Daines Barrington tells us of an old man who was witness in a cause, and averred that when Queen Anne was at Oxford she touched him whilst a child for the Evil. Mr. Barrington when he had finished his evidence asked him whether he was really cured. Upon which he answered, with a significant smile, that he believed himself never to have had a complaint that deserved to be considered as the Evil, but that his parents were poor—and had no objection to the bit of gold.

[Scott in his *Discovery of Witchcraft*, p. 137, gives the following:—"To heal the King or Queen's Evil, or any other soreness in the throat, first touch the place with the hand of one that died an untimely death: otherwise, let a virgin fasting lay her hand on the sore—repeat certain words—and then spit three times upon it."]

"But he (David) being so far gone by that distemper continued till Oct. 15th, 1688, then dyed. But severall since have been cured by doing and saying as aforesaid.

"Vpon Oct. 9 did my daughter Ester go towardes Lunden, and I went with her as far as Nottingham.

"In the mean time my brother John dyed Aug. 1, and his wife not long after.

"Then did another daughter of myne, Anna by name, take a jorney into Yorkshire Aug. 15, 1687, where she had not lived above 2 years, but she was married to one John Ingle, a farmer living in the Towne of Barwick near Castellford. In the same yeare 1687 I did bind my son Sollomon to my cuzen John Wheatcroft for 2 years to be a Tayler. In the mean while, my wife Elizabeth dyed, viz. March 3, 1688, whose Elegy you may find and David's also in my Book of Poetry. [See *Journal* xviii. 75.]

"In the yeare 1690 my brother William's wife Elizabeth dyed in childbed. She was buried Feb. 19, 1690.

"My son Titus begun to work at the Tayler trade in the yeare 1690, and Anna had a child borne July 2, 1695.

"My eldest son Leonardus was wed to one Ellen Pirkin, of London, a widdow Feb. 9, 1690, and upon May 29 I went to his honours Parpoynts where I presented to him verses of his Birthday, who veri well rewarded me. [Samuel Pierpoint of Oulecoates, *Journal* xviii., 73].

"In the yeare 1691, my daughter Anna and her husband John Ingle came to see me at Ashover Wakes, and I was as glad to see them as they me. And in that yeare I bulded y^e fabrick upon the top of Ashover Hill upon which I made a song which you may find in my Book of Poetry.

[This song does not appear among the selections in volume xviii. of this *Journal*, but it is in Leonard's MS. It has no particular merit, but is rather roisterous, and full of contempt for those who had made sport of his romantic undertaking.]

"That yeare also was my second son John wed to a widow in London. Her name was Anne . . . Dec. 22, 1691. Upon New Years day after, I went to brother Hawleys to the christening of his child Dorathy (the fourteenth child).

"In the yeare 1692, my son Leonardus and Hester came from London to see me, for they had never been since their mother died. So in sorrow they came to the place of their birth. They came Aug. 7, and upon Aug. 26 we went to see my daughter Anna at Barwick in Elmet in Yorkshire, where we found all very well and in good health, blessed be God for His mercies to vs all, but we did not retourne hom till Aug. 31. Then I went with Hester as far as Mansfeild towards London which was Sep. 19, 1692. The same day was brother William wed to one Jane Butler of Chesterfeild.

"After that I receved a leter from London that my son John's wife was brought a Bed of a daughter whose name was Catrina Oct. 19, 1692.

"Sowne after, my owne Mother fell sick. She then had beene blind above 4 yeares. She dyed Mar. 12, 1692. She was of age fourscore and eight. She had 9 children—6 sonnns and 3 daughters, and when she dyed she was mother to 6 of them, and Grandmother and Greatgrandmother to fourscore and 3.

"Not lounge after, I had occasion to go from hom, and coming late, lousing my way fell down a rocke of stone, broake my head in 3 places, and broake 3 of my ribs. There I lay all night, very lickly to dey, but it pleased God after a lounge sickness and sore sides, I recovered againe. In the meane time my daughter Anna sent for her sister Betty to be with her when she lay in. She went to her April 4, 1693. And Anna was brought a bed of a daughter May 12, 1693, whose name was called Elizabeth.

"And when it pleased God I did recover of my fall, I was resolved to jorney againe and to vizit ail my brothers and sisters.

First I went to my brother Samuells, then to Solomon Sheldons who married my sister Mary May 6, '93. Then to my sister Sarah Chadwick's, where I had not beene of 5 years before. This was July 4, 1693.

[We must remember that Leonard was now 72, and a widower, and as his accident confining him to his home so long, occurred between October, 1692, and the following May, he must have greatly enjoyed the needed change, and the society of his brothers and sisters.]

"My next travill was to Winster to see brother Robert Hawley. There I stayed one night July 7, 1693.

"Againe, Aug. 21, Brother William, Brother Samuel, and myself and several more of my Relations to the number of 25, met at one of my Relations near Shefeild, whose name was Edw. Gill where we was rarely entertained. The next day to Shefeild, there were we all "sivily" [? civilly or similarly] merry with more of our relations for the space of two dayes. And after our retourne I stayed about hom maney dayes traueilling no further than oure next market townes, in which time (which was no less than one whole yeare), both I, and all my Relations 'I praise God,' were in good health. In that year did my doughter Sarah as a seruant go to live with her vnckell William Wheatcroft, and Titus and I kept house together in 1694 till June 26, 1695, almost 2 yeares. Blessed be God we lived very quietly together, and he ordered all things very handsomely both within doors and without.

[A very pleasing tribute to the worth and kindness of Titus. He was for some years the clerk and village schoolmaster, and was deeply imbued with religious principles, but whilst possessing his father's talent and ability, had less of his parent's buoyancy of spirit, and love of society and change.]

"And after Sarah came hom, I had more liberty, and Titus too, to walke abroad to se our friends and Relations.

[One for Titus, and *two* for himself.]

"In the interim, I was desired of sum Jentellmen to cum to Tupton to discours with one Ouldham, who professed himself to be a poet, and was one who had writ severall verses not only

against me *but in derision* of the *fabricke which I had bulded upon the top of Ashover Hill*. So according to their desires we met, where a great company were gathered together. There did I challenge him to walk with me vnto Parnishus Hill [*Parnassus*'], but we both missing our way, we chanced to light on an ale-house, and after we had drunk awhile, we fell into discours concerning the 9 Muses, which he could not name, neither could he tell from whence they came, or what they had done, *or what they might doe (!)*

[Leonard must have "read up" for this meeting, for there are many in these days who claim the acquaintance of the muses who would have been hard set to comply with Leonard's demands.]

"So in the audience of all the company I gave them their right names, and all their right titles. Wherevpon they decked my head round with *Lorill* branches, to the great vexation of my antagonist, Ouldham. So ever since I am called 'The Black Poet.' [Perhaps from his sombre suit worn as parish clerk.]

[Leonard does not inform us who were present at this contest, but there is such an under-current of humour in the whole transaction, that it would almost seem the work of some scholarly wag at the expense of the Ashover "Laureate" and his "antagonist." Leonard, however, regards the matter in a very serious light, and honestly looks upon his victory as honourably obtained, and himself quite worthy of the Laureate's wreath. It is with no small pride he informs us—"Ever since, I am called the Black Poet."

The Muses had several names according to the several places where they dwelt. Sometimes they were called Pierides, from the forest Pieris in Macedonia, where they were said to be born; sometimes Heliconiades, from M^t Helicon, which is near to their beloved Parnassus; from whence also they were called Parnassides, and Cytherides, from M^t Cytheron: Castalides and Aganippides, from two noted fountains that were consecrated to them. Their names and attributes were as follow:—Calliope was the supposed president of heroic poetry; Clio, of history; Erato, of the lute; Thalia, of comedy; Melpomene, of tragedy; Terpsichore, of the

harp; Euterpe, over wind music; Polyhymnia, of music; and Urania, of astronomy. (*Vide N. Bailey's Dictionary, 1736.*)

“My next journey was to the Earl of Rutlands. The hearing of my poetry there caused them to desire that I would come to Haddon on my Lordes Birthday, and withall give his Honour sum verses upon y^e same, which I did, it being May 29, 1696, his age being then 58. His Honnour being no little pleased with them (and all the nobility besides), gave us rare entertainment, and sumthing besides.

“Sep. 12, 1696, my son Leonardus came from London to see me and all his Relations, and I at his retourne went agatered* with him as far as Howbrooke [Holbrook, near Horsley], and there we parted Sep. 28.

“Then coming hom, I did little stir abroad, no further than what concerned my clerkes business till June 17, 1697. Then did my daughter Sarah and I take a journey into Yorkshire on foot [he at the age of 70, and “Madam” Sarah at the age of 22], to see my tow daughters Anna and Elizabeth at a towne called Barwicke, above 50 miles from Ashover. We was 3 days in going thither, and 3 dayes in coming home again, but blessed be God, we found them all in good health and prosperity; and for 6 days we were very merry together, and the Lord make us all thankfull. We found all well on our Retourne, which was June 28, 1697.

“But we had not long rested at hom, but we were both invited a welcoming unto my cuzen, Samuell Billings, who had married my sister Sarah's daughter, by whom he had one child called John. He was borne May 21, 1697. The welkuming was not till July 1. There was we all very merry for 2 dayes, and we did safe retourne.

“After that I went to Matlocke with 12 staves, to get them dyed blacke against my buriall, intending them for those who carried me to my grave: this was July 9, 1697.

[Coffins were not usually provided at that time for common

* *Agatered*, on the *gate* or *way with*, a word still in use.

interments, but one was kept at the church, in which the body—secured in its winding-sheet—was laid to be carried to the church. Leonard had provided that his body should be placed in an ancient stone coffin, which probably he had discovered in his grave-digging within the church. This coffin he had caused to be placed in his future grave, so that on the day of the funeral, his body sewn in the winding sheet, would be borne in the parish coffin, *carried on these black staves*,* to the church and grave, and from thence transferred to the stone receptacle already prepared in the ground ; it was, in fact, an exact repetition of an interment of the middle ages].

“Upon July 17, I and my daughter went to Chesterfeild to buy some household goods, when Rich. Stringfelow broke. After that I went to severall places up and downe to se my Relations, but above all, I and my brother William went to Morton to see an vnckell of ours, who married my father's sister, whom we had not seen of maney years, nor he us, for he had beene blind 7 years, and no little was he coumforted to hear of us at that time, which was May 31, '99. The next day I did retourne to my family. And againe June 5 in the same yeare, I went to a christning at Cow-hous-lane, to my cuzen, John Benbrig, who had married James Brough's daughter Mary. There, and at my sister Chadwicks, I stayed tow nights, and from thence I safely returned, but very ill tired.

“My next jorney was to Chesterfeild, July 8, with the Church Bible to get it bound. That day I came hom by Alton. There I spent 6d., and so came hom.

“Oct. 9, 1699, I went to brother Sollomons, where I met with brother William. There did we 3 bretheren spend the day very merrily, and blessed be God, hom very well that night.

“Vpon Jan. 31, I went to Winster, to my brother Robard's, where I taried 5 nights, and with him to Higrouses [? Highouses], and seeing good store of oare [? lead ore] I bought of him

* Hand-staves. In the *Statistical Account of Scotland*, vol. xv., p. 372 (1795), concerning Campsie, co. Stirling, we have, “However distant any part of the parish was from the place of interment, it was customary for the attendants to carry the corpse on *hand-spokes*.”

a 12-part of a new tacker, called by the name of 'Sheldon mere.'

"Then, coming to Wensley and meeting with a company of Miners, I bought another 12-part of one Antoney Pidcocke. Then I rested at home till I went to my Brother William's, at their Wakes, where I was 2 nights.

"And, unexpected, my son Leonardus came from London, Aug. 23, 1700, who stayed with me till Sep. 9, in which time he bought that hous and land which I sould, which was to the vallew of one Hundred and 20 pounds, which was great joy to me and all my neighbours and Relations.

"Then resting myself at hom till Mar. 16, I went to Winstre againe, where I bought part of a 'Grove' of Mr. Hand. And how it will prove, you shall know hereafter. There I stayed at my brother's 4 dayes ; and about June 20 my daughter Hester came down from London to se me, who at that time was very lame, but she brought me an ointment which gave me much ease—Blessed be God!

[With these significant words Leonard concludes the history of his life and pilgrimage in the year 1701. He was then in his 74th year. The writing at the end of his MS is very little inferior to that at the commencement ; but, as the writing is fairly uniform throughout, the whole of it must have been compiled towards the end of his days, from his previous notes and collections.

The journal from this point is taken up by Titus.]

"Jan. 1, 1706, my ffather died, and I supplied his place in his absence, 4 years before [this date].

"I began to teach school in that house which is called 'Twitchbank,' and was there a year, 1699 ; and then I tought in Solomon's parlor, 1 yeare and a halfe. Then at Towndrow house, in Ashover, for 2 years and a halfe ; and, in the mean while, a school was built just above, by Mr. Will. Hodgkinson, of Overton, in 1704, and I taught in it a quarter of a year before any other schoolmaster came ; and then came one William Heald, who was borne at Wootton, near Ashbourne, but had taught school at Darley 8 years. He had 20£ a year, and I had

5*£* a year, which money was raised by subscription for the 3 first years.

“In the year 1707, June 29, Mr. Obadiah Bourne began to preach in this Church of Ashover. His text was 1 John v. 3.

“On June 22, being y^e Wakes Sunday, my sister Hester came from London and staid with me. Likewise Unckle Samuel’s daughter, Ann, and her husband came with Hester, but they went on the 9 of September and took cuz. Samuel’s daughter, Ann, with them.

“March 20, sister Hester made the new surplis for Mr. Bourne. She had 5^s for making it, and I had the old one, April the 16th, 1708. My father made this in 1662.

“Hester went up to London, May 31, 1708, and was wed to cousin Matthew Hawley, May 28, two days before she went up.

“June 10, 1708, being the Visitation at Chesterfield, there I light on a young woman who came to the Visitation to be confirmed by the Bishop, called Anne Bowne, at which time I fell in love with her, and courted her till Michælmass, and we were three severall Lord’s days or hollidays published both in Matlock Church and Ashover Church, and nothing was objected against us, but that we might lawfully proceed to marriage, the which wee did, being Oct. 7, 1708.

“It pleased God that my wife conceived by me, and had a very sore labour, and on Wednesday, the 29 June, 1709, she was brought to bed of a daughter, and it was baptized on the 30 July, and I called her name Hannah.

“Nov. 5, 1712, came 2 singing masters to our town of Ashover: one was called Richard Atkins, and the other Joseph Wright. They came from Wigson in Leicestershire. They taught halfe a yeare and had above 50 schollers.

“March 4, 1712, my daughter Martha was borne, and baptized April 6, 1713. Her godfathers were brother Henry Bowne and Richard Atkin [evidently the singing master], and the godmothers, Anne Botham and Mary Yates.

“In the year 1714, April 11, Mrs. Anne Hodgkinson, of

Overton, was wed to one Mr. Joseph Banks, of Scofton, in the parish of Worsop. Her son, Joseph, was borne Feb. 27, 17 $\frac{1}{4}$, about 3 in y^e morning, and baptized Mai. 27

[Lysons (*Derbyshire*, p. lxix.) states that Sir Joseph Banks, M.P. for Peterborough, married the heiress of Hodgkinson: that William, his son, assumed the name of Hodgkinson for the Overton estate; and that Joseph Banks, Esq., of Revesby Abbey, Lincoln, son of the said William, who had assumed the name of Banks, was created a Baronet in 1783. In 1792 he became possessed of Overton Hall, where he occasionally resided. This gentleman was the eminent Sir Joseph Banks, K.B. and K.G.C.]

"In 1714 I took Hockley of brother Hawley, and was to pay him 20s. a year, but the mantle and jamb being broken, and other things being amiss, and Matthew not standing to his word or bargain, I would not go to it, but took this house of Richard Beighton for 10 years, and (we) sealed our leases March 20, 1713.

"It pleased God, after a *long time of sickness*, to call my wife to His mercy. She dyed Nov. 15, 1714, about 2 o'clock on Monday morning, and was buried on y^e 16th, about 2 in y^e afternoon, aged 35 years 9 months 1 week and 5 days.

"Ann, daughter to William Bowne and Elizab., his wife, was borne Feb. 23, 1680, and was bapitized Mar 6, 1680.

"On Candlemas Day, 1714-5, I went to pay respects to Mary Walker, of Matlock [his late wife had only been dead two months and sixteen days], in a good design to make her my wife, and March 25 she told me she had changed her mind, when I had been at her 10 times, which was a great trouble to mee.

"On the 15th of March, 1716, I went to Frances Lovit, and on the 19th of October wee were wed (1716), and I hope we shall live very happily together.

"At Christmas, 1717, my daughter in Law, Anne Lovet, came to Elton, and I went for her to come see her mother. She staid with me about a month, and then went with her Aunt Jane to Arnah [? Arnold] again, where she staid till July 9, and then they sent her to me on Horseback, with all her close.

“My wife was brought to bed of a brave lusty son on the 5th of July, 1718, about 1 o'clock afternoon, and on the 3rd of August he was baptized, and called *Titus*.

“On the 11 August, my daughter Anne, went to live with Anthony Alsop, of Tansley, 1718.

“August 2, 1718, brother Leonard's wife died, and was buried Aug. 5. He made a great funeral, and had a sermon. They was wed Feb. 9, 1690.

“June 26, 1720, Mr. Obadiah Bourn came to Ashover, and brought his wife. (Rebecca, dau. of John Lynch, of Groves, co. Kent; she died 1754).

“June 17, 1721, Ann went to Chesterfield, to live with one Mr. Yebb, and staid till Oct. 21.

“Oct. 23, 1721, I and my wife went with Will to Lenton, to be w^t his unckle, Ralph Lovet, and that time twelve months after I went to see my son W^m at Lenton, and when I came there, I found his unckle dead, and staid the Burial, which was no little trouble to us all.

“This last year, I had a very sore fit of sickness, which began at Candlemas, Feb. 2, and continued shaking for 14 weeks, but I was not well until Michalmas next following.

“Sept. 20, 1723, my wife and I went to Arnal, to W^m, intending to bind him prentice, it being the wakes, and Frances staid a week.

“Jan. 29, 1723-4, my unckle Robert Hawley was buried, and that day sennight (Feb. 7), my aunt Margaret was buried, Frances went to Tuxforth in y^e claye, to see her sister Mary. June 3, 1725, where she staid about 2 weeks.

“By Mr. Bourne's persuasions, my unckle Samuel delivered up his Church-Door-Key to me, y^t I might tent y^e Clock, and ring y^e Bell; it was Aug. 30, 1725.

“Ap. 8, 1726, my son Titus began to turne in his frame in the shop. I pray God send him a good beginning.

[Among the papers of the late Mrs. Nodder is a *Bond*, dated May 1, 1718, between Richard Bower, of Egstaw, in North Wingfield, and Leonard Bower, of Ashover, Framework

Knitter, of 40^o£ to Lawrence Bourne, of Ashover, Gent., before they hire a stocking frame of the said Lau. Bourne, engaging to maintain the same in good repair, &c., and to deliver up the same with all materialls thereto belonging to the said Lau. Bourne.

(Signed) LEONARD BOWER.

RICHARD CULTON.

GODFR. HEATHCOTE.]

“June 18, 1728, I went to Derby, to a trial that Mr. Hodgkinson, had w^t Mr. James Sleigh, of Highgate, in London, for the 4 £ a year, left by his unckle Cap. Samuel Sleigh, of Northidge, in Ashover parish, in his last will and Testament, that if y^e inhabitants of Ashover, did build a school in y^e waste, or common, near to S^r William’s Well, then he left the sum of 4 pound a year, to be paid for ever out of y^e Lands in Washington [Wessington] Hay. (The school was built in y^e year 1703, and ever since been supplied or taught by me, being 24 years, and at 4[£] per year is 96£).

“April 1, my son W^m came over from Arnal, and brought his indentures, having served his vnckle 7 years. He was bound Jan. 16, 1722.

“Jan. 15, 1731^o, I went to another Commission at Chesterfield, wth W^m Goodale, about y^e School.

“Feb. 27, 1730, Anne Lovet went to live at Esq. Hurts, of Arrows-Lee. She staid 27 weeks.

“June 28, 1732, Martha went to live with Rowland Sudbury.

“May 12, 1733, Hanna came home from Unston, *to spin against she was married*, and on Monday, 25 June, she was married.

“Sunday, 8 July, Martha went to Loscoe, to live with Geo. Hodgkinson, and staid about 5 week, and came home ill, 1733.

“Dec. 25, 1733, Anna Lovet went to Ashbourn, to live with Mrs. Brookfield.

“May 20, 1734, I was cited to Derby, to the Election, or Voteing, with 10 more of my neighbours. The same day my

son, Titus, went to Richard Bower, as an apprentice, for 5 years and a half, if he like. [Probably as a Framework Knitter.]

"Feb. 20, 1734, my daughter Anne, was wed to Geo. Hole, and went to house, Ap. 15.

"Anne, dau. to Joseph Beadmore, and Hannah his wife, was born Jan. 17, about 11 o'clock at night, and was Bap. Feb. 24, 1735.

"Frances, dau. of George Hole and Anna his wife, was born May 5, and was bap. June 2, and on the same day its mother was buried, 1736.

"Titus and Rich. Bower went to Nottingham, Jan. 10, and came again the next day, and brought Will with them. Then Titus and Will went again Jan. 13, 1738, and Titus had got 44 week to serve Richard Bower, till Nov. 17, 1739, *or* Mr. Barns in Nottingham. Titus was married to Sarah Basford, Jan. 1, 1742.

"Martha was married to George Bassit, June 26, 1749."