

**A Collection of Particulars Regarding**  
**the**  
**Daily Walk and Conversation**  
**of**  
**Mother Ann, Father William and Father James.**

**As Related by Those Who Enjoyed the Privilege of Being with Them,**

**Together with Some of Their Own Experiences.**

*Gather up the fragments that nothing be lost. — Christ.*

**Originally copied around 1840**  
**By Sister Roxalana L. Grosvenor of**  
**The Second Order in**  
**The Church at Harvard “Lovely Vineyard”**

**Transcribed by Elder Arnold Hadd of the First Order at**  
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**Have you already read The Precepts of Mother Ann Lee and the Elders with Her?**

## *Preface to the Reader*

I am well aware that the readers of this Little Book will be left without the means of feeling the force of what is herein written, as it was ever felt by the writers while hearing these relations, from those who were the witnesses of Mother's work. Hence, they may seem like very small things, yet I trust they will be edifying to all of our dear relations in the Church Family.

**Sister Roxalana L. Grosvenor**  
R.L.G

## **Chapter 1**

### **Sayings of Mother Ann, Father William and Father James; as taken from the Mouth of Brother Abijah Worster, by the Elder Brother Thomas Hammond in 1839 or 40.**

*Eleanor and Martha frighten Polly Swan, a future faithful convert*

**I**n the early days of our faith (Mother Ann and the Elders being at Shirley), there came a young woman there to see the people, by the name of Polly Swan (who deceased in the Church at Harvard January 18, 1841 age 95).

2 Eleanor Pierce and Martha Prescott, being full of zeal and lacking both wisdom and charity, began to war at her for her lust and pride and pushed her about and finally pushed her off homeward and Polly, when she got out of their hands, ran.

3 At these transactions, said Brother Abijah, I was sorely displeased. A little after I went into the chamber and found Mother Ann, Father James and Martha Prescott present. I said to Father, "I thought the design of the gospel was to gather souls to the way of God, not to drive them off." "I thought so too," said Father James.

4 "Well, well", said Mother, "Say nothing." Soon after, Martha went out from the room and Mother said, "They have received the power of God and are full of zeal, but lack wisdom to know how to improve their gifts and if you strike at their zeal, they will be likely to lose their gifts and go back to the world and be lost and better it is that ten souls should go to hell that never heard the gospel, than one soul that has."

*How to speak to blind souls*

5 At a certain time I had been away from home and upon returning, I met Mother and the Elders on their way to Harvard. They stopped and I went up to their sleigh.

6 Mother spoke to me and said, "Abijah, you must not speak in hard irritating language to the world; they are poor blind souls and you should feel compassion for them.

7 God has had compassion on you and called you out from among them and you should feel a tender, benevolent feeling towards them and labor to gather their feelings to the way of God.

8 They are poor blind souls, groping along in death and know not where they are going and must all perish if they are not saved by this gospel."

*Tribulation of Soul*

9 At a certain time when at Watervliet, I was in extreme tribulation, which I opened to Father James and he steadfastly looked at me and said, "Abijah, you lived more years in the world than I did.

10 I was called when I was quite young and you committed at least as much sin as I did. I did not get through without feeling the judgments of God and you will not either and when you have passed through judgments, you will feel your soul wholly given up to God." [I recollect hearing Brother Abijah relate this circumstance. He

said that previous to this interview he had sought for some time to speak to Father, but he avoided him till it seemed that he could endure his tribulation no longer R.L.G.]

*The gospel spreads through good works*

11 I once spoke to Mother of that passage of scripture, “Their sound is gone out into all the earth and their words to the ends of the world.” Mother said, “This gospel will go to the ends of the world and it will not be spread so much by preaching as by the good works of the people.”

*Laboring to convert souls from the world to the gospel*

12 At the time when I labored with the people, I was in conversation with Father William and he spoke to me as follows, “Abijah, when you have labored and labored and given away your strength to help other souls and have become weak by that means, God lays sufferings upon you. And when you have your own burden to bear, they will look down upon you. How do you think that will make you feel?”

*Revivals*

13 At one time in speaking with Father James concerning revivals he said, “They are the operations of the spirit of God, but not the perfect work. They are sent to wake the people up and to keep them from sinking down into total forgetfulness of the things of God and I feel in my heart to call them to the prolonging of God’s mercy.”

*Enmity between souls*

14 When at Watervliet one time, I heard Mother say, “Where there is enmity and it gets in between two, if they do not get rid of it, it will certainly carry one or both of them to hell. If one is not to blame and he is watchful, he may escape.”

*Concerning “Accidents”*

15 A man by the name of Crane (at Watervliet) cut his foot; Father James seeing it asked how it happened and was answered, “It was an accident.” Father turned to me and said, “Abijah, are there any accidents in Christ?” I replied that there was not, “Well then, said Father, I will reprove it.” And he said to Crane, “Shame on you if you had been watching and praying you would not have cut your foot.”

*Awakening in the morning*

16 Being with Mother at Shirley, she asked me what time I got up in the morning. I answered, “When I awake.” Mother said, “You should pray to God that the Angels may come and awake you at the proper time.” Mother once said to me, “Treasure up the gifts of God, the time will come when you will need them and if you are faithful to treasure up the gifts of God, when the time comes that you need them they will wake up in your soul.”

*The Burden of Soul Ties*

17 At Shirley I heard Father James say, “Be careful with whom you unite, for by uniting with those whose care is unsound, you may get their spirit upon you and you will find it hard work to labor out of it, if you ever find the way out.”

*Praying for Church Leadership*

18 At Watervliet, Father James said to me, “At every remembrance of God’s mercy, remember me and pray for me.”

*The Power of Christ and the power of sin*

19 Father James when speaking to the people said, "Where Christ is, there is power to put away sin and when there is no power to put away sin, there is no Christ. Where Christ is, there is power either to put away sin from the soul, or else put away sin and the soul together, that they may not destroy others."

20 Mother Ann said that, "one known sin covered was enough to bring judgment on a whole assembly."

*Mother's mindfulness*

21 Being in Mother Ann's room at Watervliet, I asked Mother to remember my soul in adversity, when her soul was shining in robes of glory. Mother answered, "Be faithful Abijah and you will be remembered."

*Christ the Savior abides in Mother and Mother in Christ*

22 I once said to Mother Ann, "Mother is my Savior." "Abijah, said Mother, you must be wise and careful how you speak; it is Mother in a Savior and a Savior in Mother."

*How God sees His creatures*

23 At Watervliet Mother said, "God does not look upon creatures according to their lost nature, but according to their desires after God."

*Not how long, but how much*

24 At Watervliet Father William spoke to me and said, "Keep the fear of God in the shop where you work and keep that Slosson's tongue still. I replied you lay a great cross upon me, for that man has been a great deal longer in the work than I have." "That is nothing to the case", said Father, "It is not how long a person has been in the work, but how much of the work is done."

*Acknowledging God in others*

25 Mother Ann once said to me "Own God where you find God, whether in man, woman, or child."

*Godly Sorrow leads to freedom*

26 Once while at Watervliet I was in great sorrow and kneeling down I lay my head on Father James's feet. Father said, "O these blessed washings, how they free the soul from condemnation."

*The Devil is mighty but God is Almighty*

27 At Watervliet, in the presence of Father James, I was speaking of the Devil and I called him a poor Devil. Father replied, "The Devil is a mighty Angel, he would plague the creation if he was not held in a humbling check; the Devil is mighty, but God is Almighty."

*The gospel shall be treasured*

28 At Watervliet, I heard Father James say, "Notwithstanding the gospel is now so despised, the time will come when it will be the most blessed sound that ever reached the ears of man, that mankind may repent."

*The Second appearing of Christ in the Female and his Church, unlocks complete salvation*

29 Father James in his public discourse once said, "They who have lived on the earth since the falling away of the primitive Church and before the manifestation of Christ's Second appearing on earth, could not be saved, for there was no travel of the Church and this is more than I have ever said before in public."

30 At another time afterwards, I heard him say, "If ever a soul is saved, it must be saved by the travel of the Church."

31 Again I heard him say, "No soul can be saved, but those who do as we have done; confess and forsake their sins, neither in this world nor in the world of spirits."

*Proper confession of sin*

32 I once spoke to Father James about something which was apparent to me that was profane. Father said, “That is too awful to be spoken; when people open their minds to you, don’t let them repeat such language. You may let them confess that they have used profane language, or taken the name of God in vain.”

*The way of God*

33 I once heard Mother Ann say, “You should make the way of God your occupation. The way of God is to be learned as much as a trade. You learn to have faith, learn to believe. A man that has a trade is industrious to work at it and get a living and you ought to be as industrious and as much engaged in the way of God.”

*Apostates*

34 Samuel Fitch came to Watervliet and brought in considerable property. When his son Dyer began to warp off, he picked up the things to carry away. Father James said to him, “You professed to consecrate your property, but you have only brought it here and treasured it up in order to buy a privilege, but I will not be your treasurer, I’ll permit you, you shall be your own treasurer.”

*The throne of judgment within the serious Shaker*

35 Once while at Enfield I heard a good Brother by the name of Pease say to Father James, “I used to be running to my Elders with every little thing, but I have now got a throne of judgment erected in my breast, where I bring these little things and judge them and cast them out.” Father replied, “It is a blessed noble throne; every man ought to have a throne of judgment in his breast, to judge and condemn every evil thought that is cast into his mind and cast it out.”

36 Again, I heard Father James say that where people had trials about things that were not actual sin, if they would labor through it themselves, it would be more gain to them than it would be to get releasement by speaking of it. For any temptation that is flung into the mind, if a person does not join or comply with it, he is not condemned, for Christ was tempted.

## Chapter 2

**The following was received and taken down from Sister Jemima Blanchard, who deceased at the Church Family in Harvard on December 31, 1841, aged 89, by the Elder Thomas Hammond.**

*Kindness*

**M**arch 21<sup>st</sup> 1843. Sister Jemima in speaking of Mother and the Elders said that Father James his weaving tools and wove two beautiful Gowns for Mother Ann and Sister Molly Partington at the Square House.

*Full knowledge of the Lord shall spread*

2 One time, at the Square House after Samuel Fitch had been speaking in a prophetic manner of what would yet be, Mother Ann said, “The time will come when the knowledge of the Lord will cover the earth as the waters cover the sea and a nation will be born in a day and what do you think of that Samuel?”

*Be yourself in good standing before preaching to others in the world*

3 At the Square House when some were going to be sent out as laborers, Mother said to them, “Take your swords and make sure that they have two edges, lest when you have preached to others, you yourselves become castaways. Take care of yourselves.”

*Stay away from the Enemy of souls*

4 Father James, in speaking at the Square House observed how souls would be exposed if they stepped aside and got on to the enemy's ground. "For the way of God is laid out and it is straight and narrow and if you get on to the enemy's ground you are in danger. Just think of a leaf driven by the wind on the snow crust." This he brought as a comparison.

*Be given to Charity*

5 After Mother and the Elders came from Stonington and before they returned to Watervliet, Father James spoke to some who were heads of families that had considerable property, such as Zacchaeus Stevens, Jeremiah Willard, etc. and said to them, "This is a barren land and hard to get a living on and there is Brother Aaron Jewett, he takes in all the needy and how charitable he is to them. And you must be kind to him and help him and God will bless you and God will bless this place."

*All Great Church Leaders must pass on one day; be strong within yourself*

6 When Father James took his last leave of the Believers at Harvard at the Square House and they had been in meeting till late at night, while we were kneeling with our faces to the floor and Father with the rest, I moved along up behind Father and put my hands on the heels of his shoes and my face to my hands. When Father raised his face from the floor he said, "The time is at hand when we (meaning those witnesses who originally came from England), shall all be gone and you will have to stand and keep the way of God for yourselves, each one for his own good; then if you could find us by crossing the ocean from one end of the earth to the other, you would do it, but this you will not be able to do." This was a very heartrending word.

*Father James' last words*

7 At Enfield, the last time I ever saw Father James, (in his last sickness) he said to me and a number more who were present, "Remember this thing and lay it up, don't ever throw yourselves away, though you be fallen ever so low; it is never too late to cry to God." This he repeated several times.

*True Leadership and Love for all gospel children*

8 June 29<sup>th</sup>, 1843, Sister Jemima in speaking of the first Elders said, that she had seen Father William and Father James on their knees and around each other's necks an hour at a time, sorrowing, that they might bring the people into a greater gift and believing that one day mostly all of them would come into it.

*Future generations shall experience greater order, beauty and glory, yet less power*

9 One time at the South House, after meeting was over, Father James went into a gift of visions and prophecies and spoke of the order, beauty and glory that would be for the rising generation, "But (said Father) greater power of God will never be on the earth than now is." [Note: I have heard Sister Jemima relate the same and speak of the wonderful operations of the power of God, which she and others daily experienced. She said that she used to turn from the Square House to the South, over stone walls & swamps without any effort and that she had been entirely supported and upheld by the power of God, without touching any material substance. R.L.G.]

*Idleness*

10 Father James said if the Devil found a man idle he would set him to work.

## Chapter 3

**The following was taken from Brother Amos Buttrick, who deceased at the Church Family in Shirley, by Elder Thomas Hammond.**

*The true cause of persecution*

**A**t Watervliet, Brother Amos heard Mother, Father William and Father James say that it was by the people's being so unwise and uncultivated, that the persecution was brought on.

*The work of God in the soul is indestructible*

2 Brother Amos also told me that one time at Watervliet, Brother Elizur Goodrich and he went out before breakfast to chop wood and when they came in for their breakfast, Mother Ann got it and waited upon the table. Mother said to them, "Eat as much as you can." After eating pretty well Mother said, "Have you not eaten enough?" "Nay Mother," said Elizur, "Mother told us to eat as much as we could." "Well," said Mother, "meats and drinks will not destroy the work of God out of the soul." When they had finished their breakfast, Mother said, "Now you must put your hands to work and be faithful."

## Chapter 4

**Sketches taken from Brother John Robinson by the Elder Brother Thomas Hammond.**

*Preach Christ and the cross*

**A**t one time, when Brother Abijah Worster was going to Stonington, Massachusetts to preach to the world, Father James said to him, "Don't reprove them for their sins, for you will only get a club on your head if you do and it will do you no good. You may hold up Christ and the cross to them."

*True Unity*

2 When Mother deceased at Watervliet, Father Eleazer Rand and Brother Abiather Babbitt dug her grave and Brother Abijah Worster made her coffin. Father James spoke at the grave and said, "Here lie my two friends who came from England and would to God, if it was the will of God that I lay here with them."

*Memories of past tribulation*

3 Father William and Father Calvin Harlow came from Ashfield to Petersham to see David Hammond and when coming down the hill, before they got to the house, they were heard crying. On arriving at the house, they got off from their horses and tied them, then knelt down on the doorstep and had a gift of sorrow; the family gathered into the entry and knelt also. Over this dear step the mob dragged Mother Ann when she was carried off to Peckham's in the middle of the town during the night hours and on this doorstep, Father James was knocked down the same night when he had hold of Mother, trying to keep her.

4 After the mob had carried Mother off, Father James went alone to Thomas Shattuck's (where I then lived) and notified Thomas and Abel Shattuck. He requested for them to go and see if they could settle the matter and get Mother. Then Father went to the barn alone and lay down in the hay till day-break before he had anything done to his face.

5 His upper lip was swelled out all the way to the end of his nose and his under jaw was much swollen. After Father came out of the barn in the morning, he took Mother's cap and handkerchief out of his pocket, (The handkerchief was of slate colored silk which she wore over her cap) and said, "That was the last handful I could get of Mother."

6 The people in Petersham, who settled this wicked affair of abuse to Mother Ann and Father James, signed a writing stating that Mother or any of her children might after that time pass through the town peaceably without being molested and they generally kept their promise.

## Chapter 5

**The following Items were preserved by Elder Thomas Hammond.**

*Dealing with evil in Believers*

**F**ebruary 24, 1821, Saturday evening in meeting, Elder John Warner said that Father William's gift and word to them at Petersham was that if there were weak Believers among them, they might bear testimony against the evil, but not to lay hands on them, to shake them about, or anything of the kind.

*Faith over feelings*

2 February 24, 1821, Saturday evening in meeting, Elder John Warner, speaking of faith said, "You ought not to speak of faith in this way, to say when anything comes a little crossing, that it is not according to my faith, but look into the case and examine and see if it is not more contrary to your present feelings than it is to your faith. Faith is an emanation from God, it is of God. I well remember of hearing Father James say, "Take ye the shield of faith, whereby ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked." And Father James said, "True faith was to believe a thing to be what it is."

## Chapter 6

**Some of the sayings of Mother and the Elders gathered and preserved by Deborah Williams, who deceased at Harvard, Square House, December 8<sup>th</sup> 1815, age 65.**

### Sayings of Mother Ann

*Passion for God and Holiness*

**M**other spoke to some women who were with her and said, "When I was young in the faith as you are and was laboring out of my loss, if I only heard the name of Jesus Christ, it would make me all of a glowing sweat; how can you be so careless! Do not be afraid of mortification and tribulation, it made me hunger more and more and cry to God more."

2 At another time she said, "Don't say you have done as well as you can, or as well as you could have, or as well as you know how [I understand this meant on occasion of being reproved for a fault], the wicked world can say they have done as well as they could, or as well as they knew how. You on the other hand, have got to do right, to do the will of God."

### Sayings of Father William

*Father William's Testimony*

3 My occupation was in the King's service. I was an officer in the highest company of the regiment of grenadiers (Soldiers who keep grenades). I wore my scarlet colored clothes and long hair, down to the

waistband of my trousers and walked the street with my cane. I always meant to treat mankind well, but I would not take a miss-spoken or ungrateful word from any man.

4 Mother sent for me to come and see her. I went and she spoke the word of God to me and I was convinced that I was a lost soul.

5 I said to Mother, "What shall I do?" She said, "Go and end your commission as a soldier, settle up your affairs, strip off your pride and then come to me." "I went and did as Mother said. I dressed myself in mean, lowly apparel and when I walked the streets and people saw what an alteration there was in me, they mocked me, they ridiculed me; yea little boys not more than seven years old would throw dirt at me and abuse me. Was not this enough to kill old Adam? I found I had been a wicked man and I put my hands sharp to work in the daytime and labored to God for His gifts and power in the night season and repented. I washed my face with tears till I felt God speak peace to my soul."

*Receiving strength*

6 At another time Father said, "You must know by the gift of God that you do the will of God, then you will feel strong."

*Tough Love*

7 To a young man who came to see them and had been there sometime, Father said, "Go wash your face and hands clean and cut off that nasty bunch of long hair and go to Samuel Fitch and confess your sins; then come and I will reason with you. Though your sins be as scarlet they shall become white as snow, though they be red like crimson they shall become as wool." Afterwards he said to him, "If you do not mean to do as I have said, then take your horse and go away, for you have heard as much as will be for your good."

*We love Mother Ann Lee*

8 Upon an occasion of absence from Mother, Father William said, "I want to go to my Mother; I am sick to see my Mother; I had no God till I had a Mother; how could I be born without a Mother! What reason do I have to bless God except for my Mother?"

## **Sayings of Father James**

*True faith in God's promises*

9 "When we came to America we had nothing; but we were willing to labor with our hands for support. Foxes had holes and the birds of the air had nests, but we had nowhere to lay our heads. We believed in the promises of God and that we were sent here by Him. I then saw the day that I would have gone twenty miles on my hands and knees, to see one person in America that owned the way of God."

*The only way*

10 Father, speaking to some who were going home from the Church, by way of encouragement said, "Had you seen your loss as you see it now and had seen no way out or remedy, you would have destroyed your own lives [committed suicide]. See how the mercy of God has come to you and shown you the way of life and salvation? You never will travel out of your loss except by repentance. If you repent and obey the gospel, it will make you thankful and joyful and sorrowful."

11 He said, "How can souls be more deluded than to profess to be Christians, members of Christ's body and live in sin! Let all of their churches and congregations meet together at the same time, going forth in unity and practice in public all of those works which they practice in secret and they would soon cry out with confusion of face and say "*this is not serving God.*" Priest and people, professor and profane would say, "*This is the work of the Devil.*" If it wasn't for a false hope, that mankind has traditionalized through the aid of their priests and teachers, they would repent the instant they heard the true gospel."

12 Father James also said, "The sound of repentance will yet be the most joyful sound ever heard by mortals."

*Faith and Love for souls*

13 And again he said, "I feel faith and love enough in my soul to save the whole world and a thousand more if they would desire to be saved."

*Gods Goodness, Salvation and will*

14 At another time he said, "God is omnipotent and omnipresent! How can you but love and obey such a God that is all good! When we have a gift of God, then we know that we do the will of God. There is truly a way for us to be saved and there is the same possible way for you to do the will of God and never feel satisfied short of that."

*Do not mention the sins of Gods saints*

15 A woman that was reproved for her wrong said, "I have not done so bad as Peter did." Father James told her to repent and pray to God that the thought of her heart might be forgiven her and then said, "I warn you all not to meddle with the sins of the people of God; handle not their sins. Saint Peter is now a Bright Angel in Heaven."

*Equality in God*

16 And again Father said, "The way of God is equal, your ways are unequal. I want nothing but my equal part with you. The Gospel is the only good; the only abiding good, all that will do us any good in this world, or in the world to come."

*That which is in your midst*

17 And again he said, "You call yourselves the people of God. If you are, when you assemble yourselves together, you assemble before the throne of God and the judgment seat of Christ, as well as before an innumerable company of Angels and the spirits of just men made perfect."

## Chapter 7

**The following is related by Sister Betty Babbitt, as she distinctly recollects hearing it related by Abigail Cooper who deceased in the Church at Harvard August 24<sup>th</sup> 1816, aged 90.**

*Testimony*

**W**hen Mother and the Elders came to see us (at the Square House) they asked us if we were satisfied with the religion we had, if it saved us from sin and made us happy. Said they, "We have the pure religion of Christ and if you will take us in and keep us a little while, we will do you good, for all we want is to help souls to God. We are of that number who worship God in the Spirit and have no confidence in the flesh."

2 I replied that I had seen a great deal of false religion and did not want to see any more. I thought if they had any new religion they might keep it to themselves for I did not want it and did not care about seeing them, (they were English people).

3 They tarried for a short time and before they went out, they asked me if I loved them, I told them I did not know if I did. Father William replied "We will make thee to love us before we leave the place."

4 As they were going out, Father William gave me an apple. I did not want it, but took it for manner's sake and put it on the mantel piece. They had not been gone long, before I found that I did love them in truth. I never felt such love to any people on earth as I did to them. I loved the apple they gave me for their sakes. When I was about my work, I would now and then take the apple in my hand and look at it. I knew they had something good, I loved them so. I wanted them to come back and when they came, I was thankful to take them in and do anything for them that I could do. I found Mother's words to be true; they had the pure religion of Christ.

## Chapter 8

### Sketches taken from Sister Jemima Blanchard, by Mary Chandler.

#### *Healing Testimony*

**A** short time after I believed and set out to obey the gospel, I was in meeting most of the time with Mother and the Elders and being zealous, I danced till my feet were very sore and my legs swollen to that degree that I could not take one step.

2 At this time, I lived at Isaac Willard's and when he went to meeting at the Square House, Mother asked him where I was. He told her my situation, said he left me crying over my feet, because I could not go to meeting and dance.

3 Mother sent him back with a horse and carriage after me, to bring me to her. So I put on his shoes and was helped into the carriage.

4 When I arrived where Mother was, she helped me into a chair and put my feet in another and sat down by me. She asked me if I had faith in the healing power of God; I answered yea.

5 Father William passed the door and Mother called him and asked him if he could labor for a healing gift. He came and stroked my legs three or four times down to my feet, then told me to go and labor for the power of God and be joyful (this was in the morning). I went to laboring and never stopped for dinner or supper. It was perfect heaven, for I was carried by the power of God and my feet scarcely touched the floor, but my head often hit the ceiling and I wished there was a way for me to have seen how high I could go. I have never since had my feet lame or sore.

#### *Dangers of Covetousness*

6 Mother Ann said the people of God would never come to want unless it was through covetousness.

#### *Only strengthen the New Creation*

7 In a large assembly that I attended, Father James spoke after this manner, "Hear ye my words all you that are within the sound of my voice; don't you ever build up what we have pulled down. You may build up the New Creation, but not the old."

#### *Maintaining the spirit of Christ*

8 Father James afterwards spoke to those who were sent out as laborers, to be careful and keep down. If they met with a trying situation or people, they were to remember to be governed by the spirit of Christ. "Remember," said he, "if you have not the spirit of Christ, you can do them no good."

#### *Always make time to hear confession*

9 I heard Father James say that if he was on a journey and met a man who wanted to confess his sins, he would stop and hear him, if it was in the night in a snow storm.

#### *Labor in your present gift*

10 Sometimes we would be looking for some further gift when Mother came into meeting, but she would tell us to repent and do our first works.

#### *Teach joy, even when called to godly sorrow*

11 Father William used often to say to us; "Be joyful, joy away." He said he could encourage us to be joyful, but nobody said to poor Father William, "Be joyful."

*The wise never argue*

12 I heard Sister Jemima say that Father James would not hold an argument with anyone, although many came to see him for that purpose. He would tell them if they wanted the gospel of salvation he was ready and willing to offer it to them; if not, he had nothing more to say to them, for the call of God to him was to preach the gospel of Christ to the poor and needy and do all he could to help them.

*Do not provoke the world, obey God's will*

13 Father James said he would treat his enemies well and show kindness to those who were enemies to the cross of Christ; for he would rather have the good will of a dog [a calm dog represents a worldly rejecter of the cross, who remains calm and favorable towards Believers] than the ill will of a dog [a barking dog which represents enemies of the cross when provoked to anger and arguing]. "But, Brethren," said he, "you must choose to either do as you selfishly please, or obey God's will in order that you can answer to Him. As for me, I choose to do the will of God."

*True Shakers can never be bound*

14 Father James, in warning us of the tribulation which would follow their departure, the famine of the word of God and the wolves which would devour the sheep, he would say, "there will be those who will cut you down, but who will bind you up? They cannot."

*God is ever merciful*

15 Father said if any soul had sunk ever so low and was ever so deeply lost from God, it was never too late to cry to Him for mercy.

## Chapter 9

### **Incidents related to Mary Chandler by Mary Hammond Who deceased in the Second Family in the Church at Harvard, December 10<sup>th</sup> 1834, age 79.**

*Testimony*

**W**hen we first set out to obey the gospel and live in our own family, the Elders visited us once in a while and if we did anything contrary to what they told us, our daughter Ruth [She who lived with Mother Lucy in the Ministry] would tell them as soon as they had got into the house, just what we had been about. She was a good Believer and a help to me, for I feared to do anything before her which I would not do before the Elders. They used to chastise us very severely. They came to our house one time and chastised sharply. They said we were all smeared over with the flesh and they could not bear to stay with us. So they went away and left us. I sat down alone in the chimney corner and wept. I thought I was doing the best I could.

2 They soon came in again and told us how glad they were to see us and how good it seemed to them to get among good and faithful believers once more.

3 I had a son who was sick with the mumps and could not sit up even for a moment. I thought he must die. Mother came into his room while they were in meeting and spoke very sharp to him; told him to get up and shake and put away his mumping devils and go to laboring sharp in the works of God. He got up and went into meeting and labored. Soon after meeting, he came to me and asked for something to eat, so I found he was well.

## Chapter 10

### Sketches taken from Ruth Robbins, now living in the Second Family in the Church at Harvard. By Mary Chandler.

#### *Pure Love*

**F**ather James used to say sometimes in meeting, “Come sweet love come to me and go off old lust, get away behind me, we do not want thee.” Sometimes he would say, “Pure love will injure all evil.”

#### *Bless the little children*

2 Father James always noticed children when he came were they were. I never loved anybody as I did him.

3 One night they had a meeting when Father James was at our house and the children were sent to bed early. I cried almost all night because I could not see Father. He heard of it in the morning and sent for us to come and see him. There were three of us; he sat one on each knee and took the other in his arms. He asked us some questions and told us we must be good children. It was all made up to me then, not seeing him the night before.

## Chapter 11

### An Item from Jena Robbins, By Maria Fidelia Grosvenor. She deceased at the Second Family in the Church at Harvard, February 8<sup>th</sup> 1826, aged 76.

#### *Testimony*

**T**he first time I ever saw Mother, she spoke these words: “Kneel thee down, thou haughty and wicked woman and repent and confess your sins, or you will go to hell.” I kneeled down and tried to repent as well as I could and confessed that I was a sinner. She spoke very sharp to me and told me to confess and tell her what I had done. Mother was a lovely and beautiful woman, I can never forget her.

#### *No Pride allowed*

2 I once heard Mother say that pride looked best on a horse.

## Chapter 12

### Sketches taken from Brother Abijah Worster, who deceased at Harvard. By Mary Chandler

#### *Ambition*

**I** heard Brother Abijah say that Mother and the Elders cautioned him not to let his ambition carry him beyond his strength of soul and body.

#### *The Power of God*

2 When under the operation of the power of God, Father James said to him, “Abijah love that power and be obedient to it and it will finally redeem your soul.”

*Apostates*

3 He said that Father taught him that when anyone departed from the faith of the Son of God which we profess, to withdraw from him and hold nor more union or communion with him.

*Disproving the enemy*

Brother Abijah saw that one time he was sitting at work alone in his room; Satan told him that he could not look Father James in the face. He told Satan he could and he would. What, said he, a man that I love as much as I do Father James, can't look him in the face! So I kept my eyes open looking to see him come in. When he came, I looked him right in the face and he came to me and embraced me and we had a good loving time together.

## Chapter 13

### **Sayings of Father James etc. as related by Lucy Hammond, who deceased in the Second Family at the Church at Harvard July 8, 1845, age 85. To Mary Chandler**

*Men of this world*

**F**ather said we should not say, "He is a world's man", but we should say when speaking of the world, "He is a man of this world, or a man of the world."

*Make room for the good seed*

2 The first words I ever heard Father speak were these, "Plough deep, plough up the fallow ground of your heart and make room for the good seed to be sown therein and let it take deep root and it will spring up and grow and flourish and you will eat of it and know it is good."

*Do not kill with fire*

3 She said the first Elders taught us not to put any living thing into the fire, not the smallest insect, for it was a hard death to die.

*Reflection of the heart*

4 They used to tell us that if we had dirty corners in our rooms, or in our chests, or anything we possessed, it reflected what we had in our hearts.

*Excessive talking*

5 They also saw that when some gained a gift in meeting they would go out and talk it all away.

*Some choose to grow very slowly*

6 Mother saw it would take some twenty years after they set out in the gospel to travel up and out of the order of nature. For some, it would take this long just to grow from the level they were on when they first set out in the gospel. Father James saw that when we did wrong, we could repent and be sorry for the wrong we had done, but would go and do the same thing again and again, but true repentance was to leave off doing wrong.

### **Miscellaneous Items recorded by Mary Chandler.**

*Keep children busy*

7 I heard John Perry [deceased at the Second Family in the Church at Harvard December 20, 1819, aged 86] say that Father William came where he was one time and saw some children standing idle. He asked him if he had nothing for them to do. "If you have not, said he, you had better set them to picking up pebble stones, for if you suffer them to be idle, the Devil will set them to work."

*Testimony*

8 I heard Henry Gordon [deceased at the Second Family in the Church at Harvard, September 18, 1830, aged 94] say the first words he ever heard Father James speak were, "Mother, here is a man that wants to open his mind." "I had said nothing about it", said Henry," but he told the truth, for I did want to open my mind." Mother said to Father James, "Will you hear him open his mind?" "He said he could and took me by the hand and led me into another room, where we sat down and I opened my mind to him and it was easy, because I felt such love to him and I have never lost it to this day, I feel him near many times."

*Deceased Shakers still watch over us*

9 I heard Joseph Wythe [deceased at the Square House October 13<sup>th</sup> 1837, aged 85] say that Father William was a very charitable man. "He told me," said Joseph, "that I should be saved and that I must go to heaven with him, for he could not go to heaven without me and since he had left this world, he comes to see me in my sleep. He does not leave me alone for a long time, for he does not think it best."

*Remain humble*

10 Father James said, "If any man finds himself on a high ledge, he is in a dangerous place to stay there long, he had better creep down carefully by degrees, than to fall; for if he should fall it would be his ruin." [Guard yourself against pride and self-exaltation; remain humble and lowly in your gospel travel].

*Always keep God in your thoughts*

11 I heard Elizabeth Babbit [deceased at the Square House, August 10, 1825, age 66] say when she asked Mother and the Elders to remember her they would say, "We shall not forget you, if you do not forget God."

*Watch and pray*

12 I heard Delighteth [deceased at the Square House, May 11, 1826, aged 70] say, one time the Elders called upon her to wake up and look around; for the Devil was out with his flank guards to catch her and would catch all who were not upon the look out.

*Forsake the flesh*

13 I heard Sarah Crouch say that the first Elders said that the Devil was in the flesh and we should all find it so. [Sarah Crouch deceased at the Square House, December 10, 1833, aged 83].

*True Devotion*

14 I heard Eunice Wythe say that she had gone to meeting many times from Cambridge to Woburn on foot, carrying her infant in her arms and returned the same day, making more than twenty miles. She did not stop for foul weather or bad walking [Eunice Wythe deceased at the Square House January, 16, 1830, aged 74].

*Never forsake meeting for any reason whatsoever*

15 I heard one of the first Believers say that Mother Ann said, "If the wicked should pull down your places of worship, you must not neglect to assemble yourselves together for the worship of God; even if you have to meet together outdoors or in the barn."

*Wickedness shall increase*

16 I heard Mother Sarah Kendall [now living at the Square House] say that Mother Ann said that lust would so increase in the earth, that men and women would be seen coupling in the streets with no more shame than the beasts and that the time would come, when the Sisters would be glad to get into the arms of their Brethren for safety and protection.

*The way of God*

17 I heard Elder John say that Father James said no one would find fault with the way of God that was really in it, but some, who have never taken one step in the way, will complain and find fault with it. [Elder John deceased in the Church, July 4<sup>th</sup> 1834, aged 76].

*Conviction*

18 Father James said, “When souls are brought to feel that they must be born again, they will never sleep again.” They shall never rest again in the comfort of their ignorance. [Related by Brother Nathan Kendall who says it had such an awakening effect on his spirit, that he never slept very soundly afterwards and was very easily awakened.]

*Over Exaggerating*

19 I heard John Perry say that Mother said we should not say that the weather was extremely cold; we might say it was cold or very cold and that was enough.

*The hardest thing to bear*

20 Brother Nathan [deceased at the Square House March 11, 1845, aged 90] said he had heard Father James say that the hardest thing he ever had to bear was living with false hearted brethren that would betray him.

*Keep each other pure and Holy*

21 I have heard Brother Oliver Robinson repeat some of Father James’ words in meeting, which he had heard Father speak in meeting when he was a youth. Father said, “Brethren, love your Sisters and keep them pure, Sisters love your Brethren and lay no temptations before them. I love my Brethren all as one. I love my Sisters all as one. We have a lovely altar whereon no one has a right to partake, but those who have confessed and forsaken their sins.”

*Temperance*

22 I heard Brother Abijah Worster say that the first Elders say we should be temperate in all things, that we should not eat too much, or drink too much, or sleep too much and that the gospel does not require us to go beyond our ability or strength in any exercise of soul or body.

*Don't make comparisons*

23 I heard Jemima [Blanchard] say that Mother Ann said that we should not compare ourselves with each other, for in so doing we were not wise. For God deals with His creatures as He sees fit in His own Wisdom.

*You reap what you sow*

24 I have often heard Brother Oliver Robinson [who deceased at the Second Family in the Church at Harvard, December 29, 1838] repeat these words of Father William’s in meeting, “Your own ways will carry you to hell.”

*Chew silently and don't talk too much*

25 Sister Anna Laithe told me that the first Elders used to tell them it was the flesh in them to make any unnecessary noise when they were sitting at the table.

*Prophetic utterance regarding an Apostate*

26 I heard Sister Abigail Allen say that she had a son who believed and afterwards turned away. – Father James told him that if he left the way of God, he would turn to rags and lust and would be a vagabond upon the earth. Some of the Believers saw him after he went away – He was ragged and lousy; they saw the lice crawling upon him. He said Father’s words had come to pass, that he had turned to rags, lice and lust. [Abigail Allen deceased in the Second Family at the Church of Harvard October 20, 1822, aged 80. She had experienced much affliction, yet remained faithful].

## Chapter 14

### **Sayings of the aged Believers concerning their early experience in the gospel and their interaction with Mother Ann and the Elders, recorded by Maria Fidelia Grosvenor.**

*Try the gospel way before judging*

**A**pril 8<sup>th</sup> 1841, Sister Jemima being in conversation with some of the Sisters said, “I have often heard Father James say he wanted everyone to try the way of God before they found fault with it.” At one time he said, “We have offered you our way and invite you to partake of the heavenly food which we partake of, but some will say before they have tasted that they do not like it and so turn away.”

**The following was spoken by Sister Patience Crouch April 25<sup>th</sup> 1841. She deceased in the Church at Harvard August 29<sup>th</sup> 1843, aged almost 77.**

*Love God*

2 I was 15 years of age when I received faith in the Testimony of Mother and the Elders. The first time that I went to meeting at the Square House, Father James said to me, “You must love God with all your heart, might, mind and strength.”

*Healing testimony*

3 At one time I was in meeting under a good degree of mortification and in so much pain in my limbs, that I could hardly move. Mother, took hold of me, under my arms and labored with me twice across the floor. She took my bodily pain all away.

*Hands to work, preparation and diligence*

4 One time in conversation with Mother, she told me that when she lived in the wilderness at Watervliet before the gospel was opened, she helped the brethren clear the land. I think she said she helped clear every acre that was cleared before the gospel was opened. She said they had provision enough to last two years when the opening began.

### **Additional items concerning Sister Patience by the writer Roxalana Grosvenor**

*Confession of sins*

5 She told me that the first time she saw Mother, she asked her if she wanted to confess her sins – She was bashful and knew not what to say, but Mother took her to one of the laborers and told him to hear her open her mind and she did it as well as she knew how.

*Love freely, openly and in truth*

6 The next time when she went to meeting Mother asked her if she loved her – she answered that she did. “Then hug me and kiss me, said Mother and don’t be so strange.”

*Believing for natural family to be converted*

7 It was several months before any of the rest of Sister Patience’s father’s family set out, except one who did not live at home. She used to wear a cap, kneel before and after eating and use Believer’s language all that time. Finally all the family set out.

*Testimony*

8 Monday May 17<sup>th</sup> 1841. Some of the Brethren and Sisters went to the Square House to sing to the Aged, being previously informed that Christ and Mother were coming to bless the place and people. Brother Nathan Kendall spoke and said, “I feel very thankful for this peculiar notice and blessing. It was in this room that I first

saw Mother and the Elders and received my first faith. The house was surrounded by the wicked, who were enraged against the work of God. I was a stranger and did not know whether the work was of God or not, but I wondered how people could show such a spirit as the wicked showed towards them. Before I left this place I received faith.”

*Healing Testimony*

9 After meeting, some of us went to see Mother Sarah Kendall in the room where Mother Ann used to live. She related to us the following: Mother Ann came here to live in June. I think it was the next year, either in June or July, when there was a time of great sufferings among the people of God. Mother Lucy and Mother Hannah were very sick here, at the house and their lives were almost despaired of.

10 I was at my Father’s in Woburn; the disease that prevailed was a severe cough attended with violent vomiting. I had it so bad that I could not get upstairs except by pulling myself up by the banisters very slowly. I could not lie down in my bed without almost choking to death. I had to be bolstered up in the bed.

11 Father William came to our house and found me in this situation. He stayed there a number of days without saying anything in particular to me. Just as he was about to leave (his horse being at the door) he came into the room where I was and began to speak.

12 O, he spoke with such power of God; one would think the heavens and earth were coming together. Thus he spoke for about 10 minutes; you cannot imagine the power of his word. His gift was the power of Eternal Life to my soul and healed my body at that time.

13 I afterwards learned that he had felt in a great labor for me, ever after he came into the house, but he could not feel a gift to say anything to me.

14 I went right to work that afternoon with the Sisters and continued well. I don’t recollect that I coughed again after that. This was Monday P.M. Wednesday night; I mounted my horse and arrived at this house between 8 and 9 o’clock the next morning. I attended a number of powerful meetings, stayed until Saturday, just as the sun set, when I started for home, in obedience to Mother’s word; arrived home just at daybreak.

15 About four or five weeks afterwards, I came again to this house and attended meeting. There was a large number that came forward and acknowledged the gifts of God which they had received. I came forward and knelt down and acknowledged the gift of healing which I received from Father William.

16 I spoke and said, “You do well to acknowledge the gift of God to you. If you had not taken hold of that gift you would as surely have gone out of this world as ever a soul did.”

*Mother Sarah’s account of a visit to Watervliet as recorded by Maria F. Grosvenor.*

17 Sometime in the latter part of February or the first of March, Nathan and I set out for Watervliet. We rode in a pung (small lumber sleigh) but carried a side saddle with us for fear the snow would go off.

18 When we got to Lebanon, Peter Ayres took us to Watervliet. We made our visit and returned to Lebanon with some of the Brethren.

20 The next day we started for home leaving our sleigh at Lebanon on account of the thaw. One of us had to walk all the way (and I took my turn at walking once in a while, as I could not bear to have Nathan walk the whole way) and the snow a considerable part of the way was over three feet in depth.

21 We came to a stream which was so swelled by the melting of the snow that we could not see the bridge and the current was quite rapid. Here we stopped and considered what to do. Just before we got here, Ezra Laithe overtook us. He rode a small, weak horse.

22 At length I got up on our horse and holding the reins in one hand in the horse’s mane with the other, I ventured into the stream and was carried safely over. Though it seemed sometimes that it was impossible to withstand the current, a kind Providence rescued me.

23 But when I was safely landed, there was I on one side and my brethren on the other with only one little horse. What could I do but cry to God and I did cry to Him.

24 Finally they both got onto their little horse and ventured into the stream and I watch them with the most painful anxiety. Yea I did cry to my blessed Mother and stretched out my hands towards her, as I saw the great

danger they were in, for it seemed wholly impossible that a beast as weak as that, could conquer that rapid current with so great a weight.

25 Yea, I am sure that they would have gone down the stream together, had it not been for the protecting hand of God. But this prevailed and all were safely landed and we then rejoiced and praised God for our deliverance.

26 We then continued our journey on to Northampton. When we got to the river it was about sundown. We found the river was all broken up, but there was so much ice floating down, that the boatmen durst not venture across with their boats.

27 Seeing no chance to pursue our journey for the present, we went to bed with heavy hearts. But in the morning, we found to our great joy that there was a bridge of ice (close by the tavern where we stayed) formed by masses that had stopped there as they were floating down the river.

28 This felt to us like a providential circumstance in our favor; and although with some apparent danger (as we had to jump from one mass to another), we succeeded in crossing it.

29 We arrived that day at New Salem where Ezra Laithe lived. Here we were kindly entertained. The next day we went to Petersham, where we found some more Believers and stayed the next night.

30 Then we went on to Abel Jewett's, spent the night with them. The next day, we called on Elijah Wilds in Shirley and arrived home at Woburn the same day.

#### *The Bride of Christ*

31 While Mother Ann lived at Watervliet, I went to see her four times in a year. The landlord at the Inn where I stopped observed it and remarked to me, "You visit the Elect Lady once a quarter."

## **Chapter 15**

### **Further Sketches of Mother Sarah's Experience in the early days of her faith. Recorded by Maria Fidelia Grosvenor**

#### *Testimony of Mother Sarah*

**T**he first year after I set out to be a Believer, The Church, that is Mother and the Elders, was at my father's house in Woburn, Massachusetts.

2 I lived with them and I had such a sense of my depraved wicked nature and of my loss from God, that my tribulation of soul was greater than language can express.

3 I was afraid that Mother and the Elders would send me away to the world and I thought if they did, that I should mourn myself to death.

4 I used to work in the kitchen and see the concerns of the Family and had but little time for leisure. But what time I did get, I used to go out into the woods nearby and fall on my knees and O how I did cry to God that I might have that power that would protect me, that I need not be left to that awful state.

5 Not that Mother and the Elders gave me any reason to think any such thing, for they never spoke such a word. It was all in my own feelings, the deep sense I had of my own state.

6 One night, after I thought everybody in the house was gone to bed, being under a heavy weight of this sense, Father James came into the room. He looked very pleasantly upon me and said, "Sarah, will you be so kind as to wash my feet?"

7 This felt more to me than if all the world had it been offered me; it felt like mercy and charity and showed that Father felt union with me. I went to bed that night quite comfortable in spirit.

8 I have heard Mother Sarah relate all the foregoing incidents and further state that while the Church was at their house, she used to fast until after she had done up her work at night and then she used to stay awake till all the family had retired to rest.

9 Then she would lie down on the floor before the fire and the first time she woke up, she remained awake, whatever the time might be.

10 She never undressed herself and went to bed, all that time (I think it was about 3 months she lived this way). **2015 Note:** This same Mother Sarah is the founding Mother of Zion's Center of Union, Sabbathday Lake "Chosen Land". We honor you Mother Sarah! Bless your obedience forever! Amen

## Chapter 16

**Incident related by Brother Caleb Crouch, who deceased in the Church June 2<sup>nd</sup> 1841, aged 72. By Maria Fidelia Grosvenor**

*Lean on Christ*

**I**n the early days of my faith, at a certain time, I was in the dooryard at the Square House when I heard a sound like crying.

2 I looked round and saw Father William coming down the hill by the place where the burying ground now is, about a half mile distant.

3 He soon came on and we gathered into Meeting at the Square House. Father's spirit was keen as lightning. There was one man leaned against the wall – He told him not to lean there, but to lean upon Christ.

## Chapter 17

**The following was related by Sarah Jewett. Deceased at the Square House, July 20, 1822, aged 66. Recorded by Eunice Bathrick.**

*Healing Testimony*

**I** heard Sarah Jewett say that before she embraced the gospel, she was in a very low state of health; that she was so weak she was unable to perform any labor with her hands, but that of the lightest kind and could scarcely lift a quart of water; but that after Mother came and she received and obeyed the gospel, she received a healing gift. She put her hands to work at hand labor and her heart to God and went on in the strength of Mother and was able to perform any hard work that she was required to do.

2 At one time while working in the kitchen, there was an eight pail brass kettle hanging over the fire filled with water. It was necessary to remove it and no one was near, so she took it off alone and felt no inconvenience from so doing.

## Chapter 18

**A sketch from Brother Nathan Kendall as recorded by Eunice Bathrick.**

*Testimony*

**A**fter meeting was over Father James took me out and we sat down under a black walnut tree a few rods north of the house and he entered into free conversation with me on many subjects.

2 He enquired concerning my Father's family, how many Sisters I had and whether I intended to visit Believers again etc.

3 He talked to me in so kind a manner that he quite overcame my feelings and gathered my spirit to his in love and I gained faith in the gospel and as soon as I was prepared, set out to obey it.

4 After I embraced the gospel, many of my kindred opposed me and would speak against Mother and the Elders, which grieved my spirit very much, for I loved them more than any earthly connections.

5 One time on my way from Woburn to Mason, I called at an Inn for some refreshment. There was a man there who married my Mother's sister. He soon began to talk against Mother and the Elders and he used such abusive language, that I felt as though I could not bear it and I left the house feeling so grieved that I cried aloud, as I pursued my journey.

6 After I had gone some distance, crying as I went, I was met by my two little brothers who died in infancy and they comforted my spirit and kept with me some time, till my grief was wholly taken away and I felt joyful.

7 At another time, when I was on my way from Woburn to Boston with sauce for markets (having started in the evening and it then being past midnight), I stopped under an oak tree by the side of the road to bait my horse and feeling very weary, I lay down under the tree and soon fell asleep.

8 I know not how long I remained there, but I thought it could not be long when I distinctly heard Father William call me by name two or three times. I arose and stood upon my feet and did not feel sleepy any more that night, but went on my journey feeling bright and lively.

#### *Enduring dishonor of Mother and Elders*

9 I well recollect hearing Brother Nathan relate the foregoing. He also related to me a time he received a gift of consolation, which he received at a time when he had heard some of his connections slander Mother and the Elders.

## Chapter 19

### **Sketches taken from Mother Sarah Kendall; Recorded by Eunice Bathrick.**

#### *Sufferings of Mother Ann*

**A**t one time, when Mother was at our house under extreme sufferings, she stripped up her sleeve and showed me her arm. It was covered with spots like bruises. This was the effect of suffering of spirit which she was called to pass through for a lost world.

#### *Obedience, Power, Zeal and Protection*

2 At one time, while Mother was at Woburn, the males all being gone except a little brother of mine, nine years of age, we saw a large number of the wicked coming towards the house in mob array. Mother told us to fasten all the windows and doors excepting that which faced the street, "and you go and stand in that, said Mother and don't you let one of them come into the house."

3 "We obeyed Mother and all stood in the door and by the power and zeal with which she inspired us, we were able to keep them out. There was but one that even stepped his foot on the threshold.

4 While we were reasoning with them and trying to show them the inconsistency of their conduct, in coming there to disturb an innocent, harmless people who had no ill will towards them, but would do them good if it were in their power, they hung their heads and sneaked off, one by one, till all were gone but 4 of 5, who appeared to be respectable men, who came to see what the rest were going to do. These we invited into the house and we gave them a good supper."

*Sufferings of the early Shakers*

5 In relating the particulars of the mob at David Hammond's in Petersham, she says, "They assaulted them with stones and beat, kicked and abused both males and females; many of the Sisters carried the marks of their kicks for a long time.

6 While the stones were flying almost as thick as hail one hit me on the forehead and cut a gash, from which the bloom flowered profusely."

7 Father James, on seeing this said, "Sarah, take a candle and go out and show them what they have done and I will go with you and stand by you while I have life."

8 I obeyed Father, but before I got far I heard the cry, "Mark the man who killed that man." At this the mob fled in great terror.

*Courage*

9 In speaking of her journeying from Woburn to Watervliet four times in a year she says, "This journey I often performed on horseback, as the road was very bad and unsafe to be performed in a carriage.

10 Much of the road that lay through the woods had been recently cut through and many of the stumps of large trees and small snags were left to impede our course.

11 In the winter the roads were many times drifted and sometimes in the breaking up of winter the traveling was extremely bad.

12 I often used to get out and walk (when I went in a sleigh as I usually did in winter).

13 Many times, the horse would plunge up to his girth in snow and water and at such times, I have often gone more than mid leg deep.

14 When riding horseback at such times, the horse would plunge so that I was often in danger of being thrown from his back, but I clung to the pommels of my saddle and put my trust in the power of God to protect me and I met with no harm.

15 I did not mind my troubles much, for I was so full of Mother's power that it supported me through all this."

*Prophetic utterance of Mother Ann*

16 One time being in the room with Mother when she was under great sufferings and had lain down, I went to the side of her bed to see if she wanted anything that I could do for her, but as she did not move or open her eyes I went away softly without speaking. Mother soon asked "Who was that which came to my bedside just now?" I answered, "It was I." "Well, said Mother, you brought a whole tribe with you." This seemed to have reference to the lot she was afterwards called to fill as [Mother of Sabbathday Lake]. Eunice Bathrick.

## Chapter 20

**The following was collected from the Aged Believers by Roxalana L. Grosvenor.**

*Wisdom, reproof and restoration*

**I** often heard Sister Jemima Blanchard speak of Mother's tenderness in dealing with her. She saw that she and Sarah Robbins used to talk together about it and both felt sure that if Mother had dealt with either of them, as she did with the other, that neither would have been saved.

2 Jemima said that if Mother had talked as sharp to her as she did to Sarah she should have been frightened away at once.

3 Sarah saw that if Mother had been as tender and loving with her as she was with Jemima, it would have made no impression upon her.

4 Mother never reproved Jemima but on one occasion. She came into the house where she was, just after she had retired to rest and called for her. Having been broke of her rest a great deal, she was so sleepy, that she was

rather slow in meeting the call. She heard Mother speak out sharp and say, "What! Sloth!" This grieved her to the heart and she felt as if she was killed outright.

5 She grieved over it all night and the next morning appeared sad and kept rather distant. Mother spoke sharp to her, for appearing so, but she could not rise above it.

6 Just as Mother was going away; she again spoke quite sharp and told her to leap. She obeyed as well as she felt she could, but was rather clumsy about it and still kept her grief.

7 Father James and Father Calvin stopped and spoke a few words of comfort to her. Father Calvin told her how bad he felt the first time he was reproved.

8 They took their handkerchiefs from their necks and asked her to do them up as soon as she could and bring them to them.

9 She thought they were afraid she would not go to meeting and did this that she might be obliged to go. This pacified her a little, but none could heal the wound that Mother had made. Her smile was sunshine and her frown was perfect darkness to her.

10 She went to meeting, but kept at a distance from Mother and labored in the dance on the other side of the room. Father James watched her movements and slipping out of the south door of the meeting room, went around to the east door, near where she was laboring.

11 He pushed her towards Mother till she came close to her. Mother put out her arms and embraced her saying "Come, Come, you shall be the least young child Mother's got." She then felt so much love from Mother that it took away all her grief and she felt nearer to Mother than ever.

12 Still she felt mortified because she could not bear reproof well and when she would hear others reproved sharply, who she knew were greatly her superiors, while she remained unreproved (though worthy of reproof), she would feel ashamed of herself.

13 Also, when Mother would speak sometimes of children being spoiled by indulgence, she would take it and feel reproved.

#### *Valiant Mother Hannah*

14 She used to admire Mother Hannah Kendall's brave spirit in bearing reproof. She observed her stay on her knees a long time one night, under severe reproof and mortification.

15 She could hear a faint groan from her occasionally but did not see, hear or feel anything like un-reconciliation.

16 At one time there was quite a company going with Father James to a meeting. It was in the evening and it snowed fast.

17 After they had started, Father James, being in the forward sleigh, stopped and enquired if Hannah Kendall was in the company and it was found that she was not.

18 Father said it was a mistake, he wanted her to be a help as she was somewhat acquainted at the family where they were going. So he desired a brother to go back after her.

19 They all waited until she arrived. They were so crowded, that there was apparently no room for her; but she told them if they would make room for her to set one foot she could go and they made it out.

20 On arriving there she took the management of getting supper for all the company and Father told her to be sure to prepare enough potatoes, for there was a great company of hungry people.

21 When they were eating, Father assisted in waiting upon the table and before all had finished, he went to Hannah for more potatoes and found there were none. Father reproved her before the whole company for not being obedient, but she appeared perfectly submissive and the next morning attended to getting breakfast as cheerfully and pleasantly as if nothing had happened. The first Elders used to call Mother Hannah "Valiant."

#### *Do not judge what you don't understand*

22 Sister Jemima told me that there were very strange operations and signs at the Square House and Mother would sometimes appear to be in a labor to know what they meant.

23 She heard her say at one time that she never saw anything like it before, “But, (said she after a pause) it is of God and it is not for me to condemn it.”

24 She saw this had been an instructive lesson to her, not to judge or condemn any gift because she could not understand it.

#### *Prophetic Vision*

25 At one time Sister Jemima herself had a very singular gift. She saw hell open and she seemed to be on the brink and in imminent danger of falling. In her efforts to keep out of hell, she crept around the room on her hands and knees, uttering the most heartrending cries.

26 Mother stooped to her and in her agony, wringing her hands, she got hold of Mother’s apron. She knew not what it was, or that Mother was near her, but it felt like a comfort and support to her, so she kept winding it around her hands.

27 Mother followed her around the room sometime in that position and then took off the apron and let her have it.

28 Then she was told afterwards (as she knew nothing at the time of what was passing), that her Sister Phoebe had fallen away to the world and she thought this gift was the sign of her situation.

#### *Father James’ Humility*

29 One time there came a young man (Israel Longly) who had some faith, to meeting at the Square House, in company with some who had been there before in bad company.

30 Some of the young Believers being very zealous, raised a war and drove them all off together.

31 Father James felt very sorry, as he had invited this young man to come to meeting and bring the young woman to whom he was expecting to be married, in hopes that she would receive faith and they might both be gathered.

32 Under this severe disappointment, Father spoke a few words of disapproval as though he thought some of them had privilege enough to have learned enough wisdom to know the missed opportunity.

33 Mother checked him immediately by saying, “James, what do you know about that man (Israel Longly)? These people (the Believers who drove them off) have taken us into their houses and ventured their lives for our sakes. You know no more what is in me than you know what is in the heart of the earth.” Father meekly replied, “I know it Mother.”

34 Thus did Mother hold her infant children in her arms, while she gave them an opportunity to see how submissively Father could bear reproof, at the same time that his soul was grieved and vexed at what felt to him like the loss of souls, causing them to pity him and love him the better although he had found fault with them.

#### *Proper Manners*

35 I have heard Sister Jemima say that Mother and the Elders were the most refined in their manners and conversation of any people she ever saw. They always called people by their proper names, never abridged names. They said that in England none but the most vulgar called people by such names as, Tom, Bill, Sam, etc. She said she once heard Mother correct a woman for saying, “O dear me Suz!” She said that Suz was no word, they might say “O dear me!”

#### *Well pleasing children*

36 Sister Deliverance Cooper [deceased in the Church at Harvard, January 9, 1840, aged 95] was the first who stood in the lot of Elder in this Church. She told me that she used to work in the kitchen at the Square House when Mother was there. Mother used to frequently come into the kitchen and instruct her about cooking.

37 At one time, there had been a great deal of company there for a long visit and the cupboards and kitchen had become quite dirty. After some of the company had gone, she and Tabitha Green went to cleaning. After every thing was cleaned up nice, Mother came downstairs and looked all around; opened the cupboard doors and sniffed. Then she would say, “How sweet you smell.” She then hugged and kissed them both.

*Mother's Sufferings*

38 She said that Mother (being very fleshy) used to suffer much with heat and that in very warm weather she would frequently sit on the cellar stairs, to get away from the heat.

*Testimony*

39 Sister Beulah Cooper [deceased in the Church, Harvard, June 22, 1837, aged 71] while on earth told me many things about her experience in the gospel and of a work that took place in these parts, previous to Mother's arrival.

40 Having previously seen this place in vision while in England, she sent Brother Daniel Wood to prepare the way for her coming.

41 He found quite a company of the followers of Shadrack Ireland, who like their leader, had lost their true light, having begun in the spirit and ended in the flesh.

42 Still, many had not lost all their convictions, yet lacked strength and power to keep themselves from the world.

43 Some were anxiously looking for further light and some few even maintained their integrity till Mother came. Such were peculiarly noticed by Mother and the Elders. Among these were Brother Abel Jewett of Littleton, Brother Zacchaeus Stevens of Harvard and Sister Beulah Burt of Shirley.

44 When Sister Beulah told Mother her experience, how she had maintained her ground against an opposing husband, Mother told her she should be her Little Sister.

45 One incident in Sister Beulah's experience was interesting to me. One night after sustaining an unusually severe conflict, having suffered much abuse, yet being miraculously preserved, she dreamed that she saw the Savior who smiled upon her and said, "So I have shielded you and so I always will" And He was true to his promise.

46 Many received Brother Daniel Wood's testimony, but the Coopers and others who had been deceived by Shadrack Ireland, were cautious about receiving anything that they could not see was on a sure foundation.

47 Those who received the testimony through Brother Daniel were very wild and strange in their gifts, but they had great power.

48 I heard Sister Jemima say that she never saw greater outward operations than among those who received the power of Mother's work previous to her coming.

49 They did not confess their sins, but received faith in Mother and were ready to receive her at her coming. She told me that at one time she saw Sister Sarah Jewett (one who was in the above named group) riding horseback, when she was lifted up by the power of God, so that she could see the horse's back and the saddle on which she rode at every leap, until she was at a considerable distance.

50 Sister Beulah also informed me concerning their gifts. She said that Sister Sarah Jewett came to their house one time under operations in company with Sister Deborah Williams who was in the same work. She went out into the door yard and picked up her apron full of all kinds of rubbish and brought it into the house, then flung it on the floor and jumped upon it and stamped and warred powerfully.

51 This she took for a sign to her to show her the worthlessness of her religion. Sister Beulah's parents were followers of Shadrack Ireland and she was one of the holy children, as they called such as were born under the sanction of their spiritual marriage. After they lost their power, to bear a full cross against the flesh, she had seemed to inherit a religious feeling which was quite offensive to their new light.

52 She thought she dressed quite plain but they made sign of dislike to her hair comb, so she took it out of her head and flung it across the room. They stamped upon it and broke it in pieces.

53 Once when they came to their house, they sat down on their feet, put their hands under their knees and hopped or jumped across the room in that position.

54 But all their labors could not prevail on her, or any of the family to embrace the testimony until Mother came; then they felt a spirit and power which they could not gainsay or resist and although they had their plans laid for future life, they forsook all and followed her in the regeneration.

55 Sister Beulah used to spin in the same room where Father James wove at the Square House. He used to ask her about Brother Daniel Wood's followers and would laugh and be quite pleased at her relation of them.

56 She knit a pair of long stockings for him. He told her he was not particular about them, all he wanted was that they should exactly fit him.

57 She told me that she confessed something of her temptations to him. – He stamped upon the floor and told her never to let him hear anything of the kind again. She said this helped her to gird up her loins and to resist temptation.

*Cutting off old relations who oppose Mother and the Elders*

58 Brother Nathan Willard related that some of those who had spoken against Mother and the Elders, he had formerly been attached to in his feelings and respected as being honorable and upright people and he felt very much distressed at the state they were plunging themselves into, so that it seemed like an insupportable burden to his spirit.

59 Suddenly the power of God fell mightily upon him and raised him entirely above it, so that he spoke aloud and said, "I had a belief that my relation would go to hell just as much as anybody else who opposes." After this he felt entirely cut off from his opposing relation; he told me he had never lost that gift.

*Don't put your hands behind your back*

60 He was present one time with Mother when a man came in, holding his hands behind him. Mother admonished him for it, as being an idle, lazy position. She then asked, what can a man perform with his hands behind his back? He cannot even feed himself! It is a position wholly at variance with usefulness.

*The rising generation*

61 When I was quite young, I heard Brother Nathan tell how Father James would speak of the beauty and glory of the rising generation. I cannot remember much that was said, but he would give a very vivid impression of it.

62 I recollect this expression "They shall sip at every rose and smell at every lily." I understood this to mean that they should enjoy every blessing and possess every grace which the gospel gives.

63 This alluded to those in particular who are brought up in the gospel and prove faithful.

*Testimony/No slanderers to be received*

64 Sister Elizabeth Jewett [who deceased in the Church at Harvard, September 23, 1838, age 81] told me that she was first introduced to Mother by her brother Joseph. "She told him to be kind to me," said Elizabeth and Mother was very loving and kind, but nothing moved my feelings like their singing, it seemed like the music of the Angelic host." She received faith and confessed her sins, but went back to Pepperell (the place where she lived) and remained awhile with her aged parents, according to Mother's counsel. But Mother afterwards felt a gift for her to move to Littleton into Brother Aaron Jewett's family and she did.

65 She told me that Mother taught them not to suffer people to slander her and the Elders in their houses, where they had the right of authority and that in the strength of her gift, she commanded a man, who came into the house where she lived and began to talk against Believers, to leave the house and he obeyed.

*Tribulation is necessary*

66 I have heard Sister Sarah Crouch say that Mother and the Elders taught them that no soul would ever travel one step in the way of God, except through tribulation.

*Mothers persistent Love*

67 Sister Eunice Wilds [now living in the Church at Harvard] told me that while Mother and the Elders were at her father's house in Shirley, that his father's sister, Sister Dorcas, came there to see Mother. She was dressed quite stylish and worldly, having lost in some measure her early convictions.

68 She was about 18 years of age. Mother reproved her for her pride, telling her that she was a proud, haughty woman and that if she was her child, she would strip her of her pride.

69 She told her that she must confess her sins. She showed that she felt Mother's word, but carried it out as if she did not mean to regard it. She attended meeting in the evening wearing her ornaments as before.

70 Mother again spoke to her and told her she must confess her sins and put away her pride, as her soul would sink in misery and taking her by the hands, she gave her a slight shake.

71 Sister Dorcas was immediately taken by the power of God and was operated upon mightily for the space of an hour, I should think.

72 During this time, she pulled off her ornaments and flung them into the fire. When she got through, she was ready to confess her sins. She did so and was ever after a good Believer, much beloved by Mother and the Elders.

*A 10 year olds faith*

73 Sister Eunice was a child when Mother was there. She is one of those alluded to in *The Millennial Church* who had ideals in their profession. I have heard her speak of it; they consisted of ornaments such as necklaces etc. and silver teaspoons.

74 She saw that the feeling she received from Mother made her willing to give them up. But her worst trouble was, that in going to school, the scholars persecuted them so for being stripped of their ornaments, that her parents would not let them go to school.

75 This felt like a great sacrifice to her, as she was very fond of her school and had much ambition to learn. But she felt willing to make even this sacrifice for the love she had to Mother and for the salvation of her soul.

76 Young as she was (She was in her 10th year), she received that faith from Mother and the Elders, that carried her safely through all the trials and temptations of youth, though many of her companions and some of her father's family, fell by the way.

77 She lived with Mother at the Square House for about two weeks. At one time, Mother was so sick she lay down for a short time, but she could not be at rest.

78 Father William, feeling unable to live without her counsel came into her room and kneeled by her bedside. Sister Eunice heard him say, "Mother, I am exceedingly sorrowful." She did not know all that Mother replied, but thought she gave him instructions concerning laboring with some people for whom Father felt great concern.

*Mother wants all souls saved*

79 Brother Phineas Pratt [Deceased at the South family] of Shirley being requested at one time in my presence to tell of something he had heard Mother say, said that he heard her say that she should never go to rest till every elect soul was called in.

## Chapter 21

**Circumstances respecting the Square House, as related by Brother Abel Jewett, Jonathan Clark Jr. and others collected and written by Roxalana L. Grosvenor, September 1846.**

**T**he Square House was built by the followers of Shadrach Ireland in the year 1769. It was then in a secluded situation, it being intended for a retreat as a hiding place for him, as he was persecuted for his testimony, which

was for a season sharp and powerful against the flesh, root and branch.

2 It was raised in the night that the circumstances and location might be kept as silent as possible. The proprietors did not even let their children know it, until after it was raised.

3 The proprietors (as near as can be ascertained) were Brother David Hoar, Sister Malabar Bean, Brother Isaac Willard, Brother Abel Jewett, Brother Samuel and Brother Jonathan Cooper, Brother Ethan Philipps, Brother John Manor and Brother Zacchaeus Stevens.

4 It is thought there were several others who contributed in some way to the building. It is probable that Shadrack Ireland contributed only by his labor, as he had a family in Cambridge who he left in obscure manner to escape from his persecutors.

5 The house was built with a Square roof and with a cupola, where he could look out and see when strangers approached.

6 Then there was a secret trap door and a staircase, or ladder that went down by the side of the chimney to the cellar, with no other entrance and was so constructed as not to be perceived.

7 When Mother came to the Square House, it was inhabited by Samuel Cooper and family, consisting of his woman Abigail and daughters Deliverance and Beulah, the widow Lougee, (Father Eleazer's grandmother,) and the widow Lampson.

8 These are the people and this is the house and place which Mother saw in vision while in England.

9 Shadrack Ireland deceased about two years before Mother's arrival and was placed in the cellar in expectation that his body would rise according to his prediction.

10 It cannot now be ascertained how long it remained, but it is certain that it was not removed until the stench became intolerable and strangers began to suspect that there was a corpse in the house.

11 It was then taken up in the night and buried in the cornfield, a place now occupied for a garden about five rods north east from the second barn. They took up five hills of corn and having interned his remains, replaced them so that they grew.

12 Everything concerning Shadrack Ireland was conducted with secrecy by his followers. They seldom spoke his name but called him the man. After Brother Aaron Jewett went there to live, which was in the year 1783, he removed the brick which was built around his coffin, but spoke not of it except to some of his followers.

13 The deed of the Square House and farm was given to Shadrack Ireland in confidence, to be held as consecrated property in common by those who contributed to the building of it and their successors in the faith which they had received.

14 After his decease, David Hoar, the most able and distinguished of his followers, with his spiritual helper, Malabar Bean (who was a very wealthy, capable and influential woman), assumed the Lead; or rather, perhaps, their abilities and influence to induce others to look to them for counsel and direction. They lived at the Square House for a season and were the head of the family, but about a year previous to Mother's coming, Hoar was arrested and put in jail for not paying Ministers taxes; his woman also left and they returned no more to live there.

15 The people of Shadrack Ireland were not satisfied with David Hour as their leader, but were anxiously waiting and looking for further light and when it came, the majority of them received it.

16 But David Hoar opposed it and (it is supposed) was the whole cause of Shadrack Ireland's heirs striking upon the consecrated property of his followers. This circumstance caused Mother and the Elders great affliction.

17 In purchasing the place of Thomas Robins (Shadrack Ireland's son-in-law), our Blessed Mother contributed largely as will be seen by the following.

18 The sum paid was 171 pounds, 570 dollars. Of this Mother gave 43 pounds 5 shillings, 144 dollars 17cents.

19 There were thirty or more contributors to make out the rest of the amount, but no one gave anywhere near as much as Mother did.

20 This is why we think it is rightfully entitled to the name of Mother's House and we have no doubt that Holy Angels and justified spirits have respect to it, agreeably to what we have often been instructed by the voice of Inspiration and the concurring testimony of all good Believers who visit it and not only good Believers but even unbelievers have acknowledged a heavenly influence resting there.

21 Aaron Jewett, the first Deacon in the Church at Harvard settled the business. The deed taken by him is still preserved.

22 The widow, Abigail Lougee, was Ireland's spiritual companion. Mother showed a tender regard for her and it was thought she opened her mind to Mother, but no one knew it.

23 The Square House was in an unfinished state when Mother came. In 1808 the house was repaired and the cupola and staircase by the chimney taken away.

## Chapter 22

### Concluding Recollections

#### *Let it Pass*

**W**hile our good Sister Deliverance Cooper lived with us someone asked her what Mother used to say to those who went to her with grievances. She replied that, she had seen her on such occasions, gently shake her hand and waving her hand say, "Let it pass, let it pass and labor for the gift of God." Recollected by Sister Betty Babbitt.

#### *Do not waste*

2 Sister Mary Hammond said that Mother asked her if she made butter from her whey; she replied that she did not. Mother, said, "You are a wicked wasteful woman.

3 You ought to make enough butter from your whey to butter your cheeses." This reproof from Mother caused Sister Mary to see herself in a light she had never before pondered. She said she already knew she was wicked, but she had no idea she was wasteful.

4 She had always been esteemed by herself and all who knew her as a remarkably prudent and economical person, but she found she was not perfect even in that. Recollected by Sister Tabitha Babbitt.

5 To another woman who took her meat from the oven and having taken the meat from the pans set them away to wash without rinsing them out with water and saving it for gravy, Mother said, "You are a wicked wasteful woman, just so you will treat the gospel which we have committed to your trust." Recollected by Tabitha Babbitt.

6 There is one circumstance that I well recollect hearing told, but do not recollect who I heard tell it. Mother was speaking of a certain woman that she saw mixing bread who did not do it properly, but left it half done with the dough sticking on the sides of the tray.

7 Mother said, "It made my head bleed didn't it William?" Father William replied, "yea Mother, it did." [Head bleeding is similar to saying it made my pressure rise, or blood boil, when you are agitated by a lack of excellence or carelessness in another's actions].

Beloved Ministry of Holy Ground [Canterbury], will you be so kind as to receive the special love, good will and blessing of your friends,

The Ministry,  
"Lovely Vineyard" [Harvard].

## Shaker Communities

### THE PROPHECY

A Worldwide Kingdom of God and Zion of His Likeness on Earth (Daniel 2:44).

### FOUNDER

Ann Lee, the Bride of Christ (1736-1784) of Manchester, England.

### BASIC PRINCIPLES

**Virgin Purity, Peace, Justice and Love**

Expressed Through: Celibate Life, Complete Confession and Forsaking of all Sin,  
Non Resistance, Community of Goods and Divine Order.

### BELIEFS

Duality of the Deity, Father and Mother God (Power and Wisdom). The Mighty Dual Spirit, Creator of Life, Light, Truth and Love. Duality of the Christ Spirit, as manifested by Jesus Christ and Ann Lee, Immortal Life, Progress of the Soul, Faithfulness, Lawfulness, Equality of the Genders, Equality in Labor, Equality in Property, Temperance in all things, Justice and Kindness to all Living Beings.

### GOVERNMENT

The Head of the Shaker Order is Christ.  
Represented in a Dual Order of Leaders, Ministry Elders and Trustees.

### COMMUNITY

Serious Minded and Competent individuals who vow to never deny the Father God, the Mother Wisdom, the Son Jesus Christ or the Daughter Ann Lee.

### SHAKER MOTTO

Hands to work, and Hearts to God.—ANN LEE

### Zion's Center Of Union

