

## Sheffield Circuit: Extract of J Brook's Journal. 1821

MONDAY March 26. I am now entering upon another quarter to labour in Sheffield circuit. Tuesday 27. To-day and yesterday quarter-day. It has been attended with the blessing of heaven.

Monday April 9. Preached a funeral sermon for Robert Down of Doncaster, who died triumphant in the Lord at the age of fifty-five years. After preaching we held a prayer-meeting, and a persecutor was converted to God. Praise the Lord.

Monday 23. In the morning was at a prayer-meeting at Sheffield. One soul was convinced.

Tuesday 24. Was at the six o'clock prayer-meeting at Sheffield, and three souls professed to be set at liberty.

April 30, to May 12. The Annual Meeting at Tunstall, in Staffordshire. It was a glorious season About sixty souls professed to get converted. The power of God came down like showers, so that they fell down and cried for mercy and arose justified, blessing and praising God.

Sunday June 3. Attended the camp-meeting on Mexbro' Common, It was a glorious day to my soul.

Tuesday 5. Was at sister Rushby's at Doncaster, and while a few of us were praying, a soul, got liberty, and another, a young woman, who came into the shop was convinced. Sunday 10, in the afternoon, held band-meeting at Rotherham, and one soul got made happy. Friday 15. Preached at Bolton to a large attentive congregation. Joined a society of sixteen, and two professed to find the glorious liberty of God's dear children. Praise the Lord.

Sunday June 17. At Thorp; attended the six o'clock prayer-meeting. After that, I and sisters Richardson and Sellers exhorted a little. The power of God came down; many were in tears. Attended the love-feast at Rotherham. It was a powerful time; three souls professed to get liberty.

Sunday June 24. Exhorted a little in the forenoon at Doncaster. Preached in the afternoon in the market place, and held a prayer-meeting at the chapel. One soul got liberty. Praise the Lord. In the evening preached a funeral sermon on account of two of our sisters; who had finished their course with joy. It was a solemn time, and many tears were shed.— We held a prayer-meeting after, and four souls professed to get the liberty of God's dear children.

Monday June 25. &c. quarter-day at Sheffield. Friday and Saturday 29 and 30. Had to go to Barnsley, and was much affected in hearing of so many being gone into eternity in a sudden manner at a colliery. Eleven persons lost their lives by falling down a coal-pit. One of them, Thomas Ibbotson about sixteen years of age died a triumphant death through Christ: and there is good ground to believe that several of the others are gone to heaven. What a mercy! — Sudden death—sudden glory, to those who are prepared. May God make me ready to follow them

Wednesday July 4., Preached at Braithwell to an attentive congregation. An old man, who was intoxicated, made some disturbance But the power of God was felt. One man was in distress; we prayed with him a long time, and he appeared to get good. Thursday 5. Preached at Wickersley, and was assisted by sister Sellers. It was a powerful time. One backslider professed to be made happy. The work of God is reviving here several have been converted within these last few days. Praise the Lord.

Sunday July 15. Attended a camp-meeting at Silver-Wood. The weather being rather unfavourable, hindered some from coming. It was, however, a remarkably good time; four or five souls got set at liberty. In the afternoon it was supposed there was above two thousand; and notwithstanding the rain, the greater part continued all the afternoon

Sunday August 5. At six in the morning attended a prayer-meeting. In the forenoon preached and had a good time. In the afternoon held a love-feast, It was a good time, four or five souls were in distress. Three professed to obtain sanctification, and the other appeared to get good. Monday 6.

Preached in a barn at Mexbro', hundreds flocked to hear. The leader informed me that four were convinced when I was here before, and they have joined. Thursday 9 Preached at Pigbourn: and the power of God was felt. One soul got liberty, and two joined the society. Praise the Lord,

Sunday August 12. Tilt's Hill, near Doncaster. Attended camp-meeting. It was a glorious day. The power of God was felt, and about twelve souls professed to get the liberty of God's dear children.

Monday 20. Preached a funeral sermon at Braithwell, on account of one of our sisters who is gone to glory.

Saturday September 1. Visited my parents: My dear sister near her journey's end, is happy in the Lord, waiting for her change, My mother is ripening for heaven. I trust the whole will be converted.

Sunday 2. Went to a camp-meeting at Wardlow Mires, in Derbyshire; walked about eleven miles rode thirteen. Preached at the camp-meeting. About three thousand assembled to hear the word of life. During the time of prayer, they nearly all kneeled down. The Lord worked powerfully, many were seized with convictions, and two professed to get liberty.

Sunday September 16. At Wath. Gave tickets in the morning. It was a precious time. In the afternoon held a love-feast. It was one of the best times I ever experienced. There was much speaking, much power, much love, and many tears shed. Several were in distress; we began to pray, and seven professed to get liberty. Glory to God. When we again commenced speaking, several who had got liberty spoke in an affecting manner, and others were in distress. Long as I live I will praise the Lord. Wednesday 19. Exhorted to a few at Balby, assisted by sister Rushby. It was a glorious time. One backslider professed to be made happy. Praise the Lord for all his mercies. Sunday 23. Held a love-feast at Doncaster. It was a good time. Many souls were blest. Seven professed to get liberty; one got sanctified. Praise the Lord.

Joseph Brook.

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Reference

*Primitive Methodist Magazine* 1822/83