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North Carolina Kolobuckey the 10<sup>th</sup> month 1784.

- 1 As I returned home I hapend to come  
By one Richard Hoopers, and he  
Made bold for to tell how that matter fell  
With that plundering villian and thee.
- 2 Glad was I indeed to hear of thy speed  
In that of obtaining thy own,  
Wherein your Compassion had my approbation  
In sparing him as you have done.
- 3 For tho such deserves no kind of reserve,  
Their life to atone for their Crime,  
Yet love to mankind will bring us to mind  
That pity is wisdom Sublime.
- 4 Christ when Crucify'd in Pity he cry'd  
Say not this great sin to their Charge:  
His Love was so pure he could not endure  
To punish their Crime tho' twas large.
- 5 So leaving behind, An example we find  
So follow as he did Command,  
To love everyone as us he hath done  
And this is the Cementing band.
- 6 Thus as thee hath spoken, That love is the token  
Whereby the true Christians are known  
So is it the dower The bride hath in power  
In owning the Lamb as her own.
- 7 'Tis love is the end that life did intend,  
Herein is contained the whole;  
God love it is life, But hatred and strife  
Is death to both body and soul.
- 8 Then love to revive, And keep us alive  
As a means we have paper and pen,  
Our thoughts for to keep from falling asleep  
Ah! lets not forget we are men (Genesis 1:26)

7

9 But mind above all, That heavenly call;  
The motion of Shiloh's great streams;  
That fountain of love sent down from above  
That into our Cisteria dark team:

10 That fountain will lead, If its rightly obey'd  
As a pillar of C in the day.  
With baptizing joy; The same purifies  
And washes all blackness away;

11 But 'tis in its ire, A Consuming fire  
In nights of a postory, Then  
Who will not return, shall find it to burn  
with fury, The follies of men:

12 But work in the day And 'twill not betray  
But guard from the fierce enemy  
The word is stand still, be patient untill  
God's holy Salvation you see.

13 Thus trouble I found when straight I was bound  
To the Quarterly Meeting to go,  
My mare she did fail, I took to the heel,  
one foot of mine failed also.

14 Then what could I do, No one to rescue,  
I almost began to Conclude,  
I must stop by the way, and then overstay  
The time of the meeting I should

15 But while in my muse, I made out to lose  
Five pounds in the swap of a horse,  
and then I could ride, but scarce could abide,  
but laboured to bear with the Cross

16 When in my distress I could do no less  
Than earnestly call on the Lord;  
It seemed to be said, rejoice and be glad,  
For great shall be thy reward.

17. Which was brought, I long having sought,  
 Have found the philosophers stone,  
 That pearl of great price, no manner of spice,  
 Nor gem to compare with its own.

18. But nothing is gained or can be obtained  
 of any degree in the spirit  
 untill in the flesh we suffer distress  
 And willing in patience do bear it.

19. The greater the crosses, afflictions & losses,  
 The flesh to pull down and destroy,  
 The more will the spirit rise up to inherit  
 The peaceable kingdom with joy.

20. Thus as the flesh dies, the spirit doth rise;  
 The greater the death the more bright;  
 And altho' it be great it is never complete  
 Till this life is extinguished quite.

21. Then let us not grieve (ah! let us believe)  
 when ever afflictions arise,  
 Be glad and rejoice that so small a price  
 we barter for such a great prize.

22. I joy in my pain because it is gain,  
 What can afford patience beside:  
 Methinks we might say, as all Christians may  
 We're willing this day to be tryd.

23. But here we seek ease ourselves for to please  
 And hold all the world in our head,  
 we think to gain pleasure but part with the  
 treasure worth many more worlds in the stead.

24. Who ever gets riches the world soon bewitches  
 Their heart will be placed thereon: (Luke 12:34)  
 For all the worlds good is the old serpents food (Genesis 3:14)  
 From which the true bread is withdrawn.

25. How many do trust, seek this dust,  
 Even us who profess the true light:

nor wait for to feel the good spirit reveal  
 What things we most prudent and might  
 26 How can we expect that truth will direct  
 In what we "desirous to know,

While our own will we seek to fulfil  
 In what it already doth show.  
 27 Let's seek to be poor and all things endure;  
 Content in every condition;

And then our joy no man can destroy:  
 Triumphant in spite of ambition.  
 28 Then why need we fear when troubles appear  
 Though from the sword others should fly;  
 For then we can sing, death where is thy sting  
 and grave where is thy victory.

29 In temporal war, some men who are for  
 a good Cause in attempting the field,  
 They rather had die than be forced to fly,  
 They'll perish before they will yield.

30 These heroic gallants improved their talents;  
 Shall we be less worthy; I say;  
 Shall we quit the field and to wickedness yield  
 with a promise for greater than they.

31 Nay rather be glad, as the apostle hath said  
 with the breastplate of righteousness, then,  
 No weapons can enter, how small is the venture  
 The victory sure to obtain.

32 The shield of our faith, The same author saith,  
 Surpresses the worst enemy;  
 So following our captain, Ere long we'll be wrapped  
 in The robes of immortality.

33 This noble warfare will in beauty appear  
 To all who can boast in the spoil  
 So may we take heed, for I think we shall need  
 When nothing else gives us a smile.

- 34 When first I began, I thought to have done  
before I proceeded to here;  
but still in my mind something else I did find  
presenting itself to appear.
- 35 Therefore to conclude, lest I should intrude,  
my love I expect you to bring  
to thee once again, without paper or pen  
which may be between this and spring.

E. E.