

**SELECTIONS FROM THE DIARY AND
EPISTOLARY CORRESPONDENCE OF THE
LATE WILLIAM MARTEN OF LEWES: TO
WHICH IS PREFIXED, A SHORT MEMOIR
OF THE EARLY PART OF HIS LIFE**

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Selections from the Diary and Epistolary Correspondence of the Late William Marten of Lewes:
To Which Is Prefixed, a Short Memoir of the Early Part of His Life by William Marten

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WILLIAM MARTEN

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SELECTIONS

14.1829.

FROM THE

DIARY AND EPISTOLARY CORRESPONDENCE

OF THE LATE

WILLIAM MARTEN,

OF

LEWES :

TO WHICH IS PREFIXED,

A SHORT MEMOIR OF THE EARLY PART
OF HIS LIFE,

WRITTEN BY HIMSELF.

“For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power,
and of love, and of a sound mind.”—2 Tim. i. 7.

London:

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GRACECHURCH-STREET.

1828.

786.





The exemplary life and conversation of our deceased friend, WILLIAM MARTEN, as well as the active benevolence and courteous manners by which he was characterized, had long endeared him to an extensive circle of friends and acquaintance: to these, in particular, it is believed, the following pages, exhibiting some of the religious exercises and feelings of his heart, will prove interesting. And although they are selected from the Manuscripts of one, who, to use his own words, had "acquired but little learning;" yet it is hoped, that the strain of genuine piety which pervades them, together with the relation of some remarkable occurrences which they contain, will render them generally acceptable.

T. C.

KINGSTON UPON THAMES,
1828.

*A Testimony of Lewes and Chichester Monthly
Meeting, concerning William Marten.*

“THE memory of the just is blessed;” and we feel disposed to offer the following testimony concerning our dear deceased friend, William Marten, who was born at Barcomb, near Lewes, in the year 1764, and was educated by his mother, till about the age of twelve years, as a member of the church of England. At this time, he went to live with an uncle, a member of our Society, at Lewes, and for some time afterwards attended the meetings of the General Baptists, and then associated with the Calvinists; but not finding satisfaction therein, about the seventeenth year of his age he attended Friends’ meetings, and, after a suitable time, appearing

convinced of our religious principles, was received into membership with us.

The apprehension of being called to the work of the ministry, produced in him much weightiness of spirit, and secret cries to the Lord, that he might be thoroughly purified; and being measurably prepared for that service, he felt it his duty to speak to the states of some individuals, at religious opportunities in his uncle's family.

His first appearance in the ministry was in the year 1789. He was very diligent and exemplary in the attendance of his meetings, both for worship and discipline, and careful to observe the time appointed; and, whilst active and diligent in business, did not suffer his outward concerns to stand in the way of his religious duties. He was frequently engaged in the exercise of his gift when assembled with his friends, and several times travelled in the work of the ministry, with the concurrence of his monthly meeting; and it appears, from his own

memorandums, that he was generally favoured to return home with the reward of peace.

In the families of Friends where his lot was cast, he shewed out of a good conversation his works with the meekness of wisdom; and in religious opportunities in families, he appeared careful faithfully to declare what he believed to be the whole counsel of God. Our dear friend was a bright example of humility: he was a preacher of righteousness in conduct and conversation; and, though much engaged with those of other religious denominations in works of benevolence, he was careful to maintain a conduct consistent with the principles of our Society.

He evinced much anxiety for the welfare of the rising generation; was earnestly desirous for the general formation of schools for the education of children of the poor; and was very active and useful in the one established in the place of his habitation.

During the last illness of our dear friend,