

length, having got a considerable shop of goods, my trade increased every year, and the road to large business appeared open; but I felt a stop in my mind.

Through the mercies of the Almighty, I had, in a good degree, learned to be content with a plain way of living: I had but a small family; and on serious consideration, I believed truth did not require me to engage in much cumbering affairs: it had been my general practice to buy and sell things really useful: things that served chiefly to please the vain mind in people, I was not easy to trade in; seldom did it; and whenever I did, I found it weaken me as a christian.

The increase of business became my burthen; for though my natural inclination was toward merchandize, yet I believed truth required me to live more free from outward cumbers: and there was now a strife in my mind between the two; and in this exercise my prayers were put up to the Lord, who graciously heard me, and gave me a heart resigned to his holy will: then I lessened my outward business; and, as I had opportunity, told my customers of my intentions, that they might consider what shop to turn to: and, in a while, wholly laid down merchandize, following my trade as a taylor; myself only, having no apprentice. I also had a nursery of apple-trees; in which I employed some of my time in hoeing, grafting, trimming, and inoculating. In merchandise it is the custom, where I lived, to sell chiefly
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