

day of the next week, being at our own afternoon meeting, and my heart being enlarged in love, I was led to speak on the care and protection of the Lord over his people, and to make mention of that passage where a band of Assyrians endeavouring to take captive the prophet were disappointed; and how the psalmist said, “the angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him.” And thus, in true love and tenderness, I parted from friends, expecting the next morning to proceed on my journey; and being weary, went early to bed: and after I had been asleep a short time, I was awaked by a man calling at my door; and arising, was invited to meet some friends at a publick-house in our town, who came from Philadelphia so late, that friends were generally gone to bed: these friends informed me, that an express arrived the last morning from Pittsburgh, and brought news that the Indians had taken a fort from the English westward, and slain and scalped English people in divers places, some near the said Pittsburgh; and that some elderly friends in Philadelphia, knowing the time of my expecting to set off, had conferred together, and thought good to inform me of these things, before I left home, that I might consider them, and proceed as I believed best; so I, going again to bed, told not my wife till morning. My heart was turned to the Lord for his heavenly instruction; and it was an humbling time

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