

"Deare Brother Pynchon—Our most Cordiall love and respects salute
 "you and yo^{rs}. Ioying in y^e continuance and extension of y^e goodness of
 "God toward yow all, as by yo^r Letters recd appeares. Sr. y^e only
 "wise Lord, in whose hand is all o^r wayes & tymes, all whose works
 "are done in wonderfull and admirable councell, are very just, holy and
 "good even when they seemingly speake forth to vs the sharpest and
 "sorest tryalls crosses and temptations (as to Abra: when to offer vp
 "his only Isaack) dayly instructeth vs both by his word & workes
 "to live in a dayly expectation of and p^rparation for changes in
 "y^e o^r pilgrimadge. Its his usual course of dealinge with all his Saints
 "to give y^m occasions of dayly exercise of those p^rciouse graces,
 "(y^e worke of his holy Spt in y^r hearts,) w^{ch} else would contract rust,
 "or ly in obscurity not shining forth soe splendid and bewteose to
 "y^e prayse of his gloriouse Grace in Je: Cht. The decree of God hath
 "Limited us o^r stationes so o^r tymes and dayes beyond w^{ch} we cannot,
 "may not pass The same is manifested in his late visitation vpon
 "yo^r and our most loved and much Honrd ffather who expired and
 "drew his last breath in Wyrardsbury October 29th, a loss to vs vnre-
 "payrable, a gayne to him vnexpressable, making a blessed change from
 "earth to heauen, from a state of corruption, to a state of incorruption,
 "from imp^rfection to perfection; from a state of sin & sorrow to com-
 "pleated joy and bliss, celebrating y^e everlasting^r prayses of God and of
 "the Lambe, who hath redeemed vs with his blood. Bro: I p^rsume yow
 "are not altogether vn^rpared for y^e sad tydings, w^{ch} I am occasioned
 "as one of Job's messengers to, acquaint yow with, resolving all your
 "thoughts & griefes into y^t holy speech of his: The Lord gave and
 "y^e Lord hath taken away Blessed be y^e name of y^e Lord. Its one of
 "God's vnalterable appoyntmts y^t all must dye. Death passeth on all
 "men, in as much as all have sinned, w^{ch} should learn vs Davids silence
 "and submission, because y^e lo: hath done it; and y^e rather seeing it
 "pleased Him to continue him among vs soe longe to such an age,
 "giving vs y^e opportunitys to reape y^e fruite of his godly and grasciouse
 "exampls & counsellis, w^{ch}, now he is taken from vs, y^e Lord help vs
 "y^t we may practically ffollow, so running y^t we may obtayne y^e
 "p^rmised recompense of reward, y^e Crown of immortality & life, w^{ch}
 "he is now posseed of. Dear Brother, this p^rvidence (I suppose doth
 "vnavoydably call yow to make a voyadge into these partes wth all pos-