

## SUMMARY

OF THE

LIFE OF REV. PHILIP HENRY, REFERRED TO IN PRECEDING PREFACE.

**J**OHAN HENRY, father to Philip, was the son to Henry Williams of Brittons-Ferry, near Swansea; according to the custom then prevalent in Wales, to make the christian name of the father the surname of the son. John Henry was first Gentleman to the Earl of Pembroke, and afterwards page to James II., when Duke of York. He married Mrs. Magdalen Rochdale of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, Westminster, a virtuous, pious gentlewoman, and one that feared God above many. She died March 6th, 1645, leaving behind, her son Philip and five daughters. A little before her death she had this saying, "My head is in Heaven and my heart is in Heaven, it is but one step more and I shall be there too."

Philip Henry was born at Whitehall, Westminster, 1631; named Philip, by Philip, Earl of Pembroke, who, with James, Earl of Carlisle, and the Countess of Salisbury, were his sponsors. He was chosen in 1647 from Westminster School, to Christ Church, Oxford. In 1651, B.A.; in 1652, M.A. He preached his first sermon at Hincksey, in Oxfordshire, Jan. 1653. In this year he removed to Worthenbury, a small town in the detached portion of Flintshire, about eight miles from Whitchurch, to be Chaplain to Judge Puleston, whose Lady was eminent for wisdom, piety and learning, above most of her sex. In 1657 he was ordained by the nearest class of acting Presbyters in the north of Shropshire. In 1659, presented to the living of Worthenbury; in this year Judge Puleston died, and Philip Henry's interest in that family died with him. April 26th, 1660, he married Katharine, only daughter of Daniel Matthews, Esq., of Broad-Oak, near Whitchurch, by whom he had a competent estate, which supported him when he was ejected in 1662, and enabled him to assist others, in which he sowed plentifully, saying, "it is more blessed to give than to receive." The maiden name of Mrs. Henry's mother was Sarah Benyon, originally ap Einion, as appears by a short table of her descent from that family inserted at the end of the volume. On being ejected from Worthenbury in 1662, he removed to Broad-Oak. From this time till 1666 he endured great persecution. In 1667 he removed to Whitchurch and on the following year back to Broad-Oak again. In 1674 he set up a week-day lecture there, which was continued for about eighty years. In 1685 he, with Mr. Owen, held a public disputation with Lloyd, bishop of St. Asaph and Mr. Dodwell at Oswestry. In 1685 he with many others was committed to Chester Castle, where he remained three weeks. Nevertheless in May, 1688, he was nominated a Justice of the Peace for Flintshire, but declined acting. On Lord's Day, June 21st., 1696, he preached as usual. On Tuesday the 23rd, he was seized with a fit of stone and colic; and after about sixteen hours' illness he departed June 24th., 1696. He took an affectionate leave of his wife, with a thousand thanks for all her care and tenderness; and, like dying Jacob, said to his son, "The Lord bless you and grant that you may do worthily in your generation, and be more serviceable to the church of God than I have been." His last words were, "Oh death where is thy——?" the last word was lost in death.