The Substance of a Speech delivered in a Church Meeting held at Gray on Tuesday 8th of September of 93.

Brethren & Fellow professors, ---- I may say with the rest of you that I am but a poor miserable creature as of myself, but I know my Master is Worthy & all my worthiness (if I have any) is in him & Glory to his Name I find him worthy of all praise & adoration. With regard to my own Standing, Gratitude to my divine Lord & Master obliges me to Say & enjoy much of his presence; I feel my Strength renewed from Day to Day, Glory to God I feel my mountain Stand strong. I hope & trust that in & thro my Glorious Captain & Leader I shall be able to overcome & finally come off Conqueror over all the powers of Darkness. –

But as to my Fellowship with the members of the church I cannot say I stand in union with one member in it. -- -- I fear you will think I am Self Righteous -- unglorious, -- or want charity, -- But pray Brethren do not be offended I must deal plainly, -- Plain dealing is what is very much wanting among us; -- we are in no order in the church in general. – Look for a moment at the conduct of our Members in general How is our Monthly meeting attended. - I have myself been almost a year in the church some of the Members I have not Seen Since, --- others I have but Seldom Seen Very common not above five or Six attends the Meeting and often they spend a great part of the Time in conversation that is of little or no consequence. –--[word crossed out] A We profess to be followers of the Meek and Lowly Jesus; consequently to come out from the World, but how do a great part of the Member of this church Manifest it do they Shew it in going to Training with their Guns, Bayonets, Drums & fifes, do! my Brethren Look for a moment at a follower of Jesus carrying these implements of War. View him! does he look ^ like? does he look as tho’ he belonged to his peacable & heavenly Kingdom? – Surely if you viewed it in the Same Light that I do, & was determined to come out of Babylon you would away with these carnal Weapons & Gird on the Sword of the Spirit & and the Helmet
of Salvation, & be engaged to fight only under the
Banner of King Jesus. — Another thing we are too
much conformed to the World in is foolish talking & jesting
it does by very ill become a follower of Jesus to join
with the profane world in these things in the least degree
out
we must if we mean (as we profess) to come ^ from the
World; forsake all the vanities of it: for we may depend
upon it the eyes of the world are upon us & we must ende-
=your to convince them that we are determined to live Soberly
=ly Righteously & Godly, both by our lives & practice.
again, --- Frolicking is to much countenanced by profes=
=sors there is but few (& I hope none) in the church who
would be found acting personally in dancing & carousing, but
they will make Huskings & Weddings and make a practice
of attending them & the consequence & general tendency of
them Leads to Drinking, Swearing, Lying, Quarrelings, Fighting,
Singing, Dancing & carousing & I dare not say these are all,
or even the worst consequences of them; but I think they
are enough to make every profess Christian not only to
refrain from these things himself but as much as in him Lies
both by his Life, practice & example to shew to the world that
he has no Fellowship with them nor with any other of the
unfruitful works of the Darkness --- Some of our church [word smudged out]
I understand omits the worship of God in their Families: & Says
their children & the world I cannot see as he has got any
Religion [?] that Christians prayed in their Families. — I do not
wonder they say this of you myself, for I cannot See how you
are a going to manifest to your Families that you are a
Christian except it is in this way. --- --- Others in the Ch
think they will do a little Better & will pray on Saturday
Nights & Sundays & neglect it all the rest of the week. ---
A little better you may well call it: for it is but a very little
for you dont take of the reproach. — dont let me offend
none of you, - I have heard it with my own ears — they
say they of the World
are so full of the hurries of the World ^ all the week they
cant spend time all the week. --- what could I say? I was
you
disarmed I cannot vindicate you so that ^ must answer &
apologize for yourselves in the best manner you can which
I believe in this case as well as the others will be but poorly
Now my Bretheren I am for a Reformation! – I repeat it there must be a reform! –— I cannot, -- I will not try to walk with Bretheren who Live in and endeavor to uphold the pernicious practices which I have mentioned and many others which I have not touched upon which I think is as necessary for us to come out from as those I have mentioned for Depend upon it my Bretheren if we partake of Babylons Sins we must & shall inevitably Resieve of her Plagues. – Judgment must begin at the House of God. --- We may wish, we may desire – we may pray for a Reformation in the World but we shall never see it until these things which are a wound to the cause of God & a Reproach & Scandal to Religion are removed. --- I am distressed & pained for the Situation of Zion. ---- How is her Walls Broken Down? – Her filthiness is in her Skirts. – How does the tongue of the Sucking Child cleave to to the roof of his mouth for thirst? –— How does the young children ask for Bread & no man Breaketh it unto them? – Thye things my Bretheren Grieves my very Soul, --- I go mourning from Day to Day to ^ children brought even to the Birth & for want of strength are not brought forth --- In short Zion is become a Reproach & a bye Word, and Wo! – Wo to them that are at ease in Zion! These Words which may be a Warning & an encouragement to us all sounds in Mine Ears: Wherefore come out and be you separate & touch not the unclean thing & I will Receive you: come out From your Slothfulness in attending our appointed Meetings, --- away with all your excuses, --- we ought to look upon the Time we have Set apart for our Meetings to be devoted to God & therefore Sacred & we guilty of Sacrilege when we intrude upon it. --------- Let us each of us be engaged & determined for the future to come out & depart from the World in our carnal jesting, in all respects, let us watch and guard strictly against every motion of it in our Mind & flee from that as well as every other Species of Sin as from
a Serpent that Biteth. ———— Abhor my Bretheren every tendency to frolicking let them be made on what pretence soever, come not near the door of the Harlot. — Manifest to the World that you utterly detest these things & that you mean to come out from them & not only manifest it to them but do it in reality for depend upon it these things in the end will sting like a serpent & bite like an adder. ———— Let us be determined upon having Real Religion Heart Religion, Family Religion: Religion at home & abroad, in the Field & by the Way; Let us manifest every moment of our Lives whose we are & who we mean to serve: the want of this is the cause why so many are crying my Leanness, my Leanness, o that it was with me as in month past: - the want of this cause why such an evil report is brought of the good Land; & why the Ways of Truth are evil spoken of & Zion become a reproach. ————

Now Beloved Bretheren for one soul I am determined to Follow out Jesus, I am determined to come ^ from the World & all Worldly dead. Lifeless carnal professors, I am determined to come up to the Work of the Lord, & am determined to forsake all for my Masters cause & Kingdom. — I am determined upon a seperation let the consequen^ turn as it may, I cannot Live So & it is in Vain to try. — I you have been with ^ almost a year, & have been observing almost ten, & see but little alteration. —— Love to many of you makes me loth to Leave you, it would rejoice my very Soul to see any or all or you come out from your bid of Sloth, & be engaged on the Lords Side & forsake all for Jesus & the Gospels Take: But if I must stand alone I mean to be on the Lords Side: & all who are of that Resolution & will determine to give themselves to the Lord without any reserve, I will join them Heart & Hand; but if they will plead for Baal, and want to Bow in the House of Rimmon Reserve Some of the Best of the Spoil to do Sacrifice. to & Rejoin the Groves & not destroy them all, I must bid them an affectionate Farewell! — For as for me & my House we will serve the Lord. God of Isral! Amen.

[written sideways at bottom]
Speech in Church
Meeting Gray