Yesterday 1mo 25, Christmas day, a fine day prest prevailing, we started on our present Eastward detour - full meetings with Friends & Letters were held in the morning, afte & evening at Beach Spring, Wells's, & Hartford. At the last place we lodged at the house of two interesting widows, valuable friends, Phoraby Granbery & Isabella Turnstead; & the visit to them & their family was a memorable one. I felt very much discouraged by what I feared was the breaking down of my voice during the said meetings, by the first appearance of the tyranny of time, with some painful sense of a want of more oil, for the keeping of the instrument in its right order. During my usual wakeful hour of the earliest morning, I was much exercised in mind on these accounts, & prayed for better things - & the prayer which was fervent, has been mercifully answered, for our two meetings to day at Sutton's Creek & Little River have been very quiet, yet animated ones; & my voice was to my much about its best order. Much tranquillity of mind is my portion this evening, & I am in every sense taking my rest in the sweet shelter of a private room at Wm. Wilson's.

12mo 31 - The last day of 1837! Our First day morning. A similar peaceful solitude is now permitted in my comfortable chamber at John Hare's near Simmerton Meeting Ho. Va. We arrived here last evening after a journey of 36 miles from our friend Nathan Winslow's near Piney woods. The fallow day was useful to me after a week of closely successive exercises, which closed memorably with a visit to the Quarly Meeting School at Piney woods (about 40 children) when the Ackworth system of ~~rel~~ religious instruction was instituted there - crowds attending. Since the last entry, good meetings were held at Simon's Creek, Newbegun, Narrows, & especially a public one in the Methodist meeting Ho. Elizabeth City - "The word of our God shall stand for ever" - A cluster of Friends & others kindly met me at the breakfast hour at Wm Elliott's on my way ~~home from the~~ to from thence back to the Piney woods. The love & openness of Friends is very precious. I have rambled with North Carolina, perhaps for ever; & look back on the travel & travail of 8 weeks in that state with a remarkably peaceful & unclouded sense of the goodness of the Lord who has led me along safely, guided my steps, put his words into my mouth, & at times poured forth his anointing in a remarkable manner.

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