

Sarah Pierney
Lacey & Porridge, Nether, Middlesex Oct 3, the 27th 1795. My Parents ^{were} of the
Church of England, wherein Sarah's Father & Mother ^{by} ^{their} ^{own} Childhood
were convinced of sin & felt they not might, & almost, than believed that I must
attain to something as yet unpossessed, &c. I could not be eased. My natural dis-
position was slightly, so that what tends to improve, I had in my heart, ^{were}
of short duration. When I was 13 years old a ^{Departing} Gentlewoman took
me into her family, where I was instructed in ^{the} ^{principles} ^{of that denomination}
Books & particularly Backsters Call to the unconverted, which I brighten'd
me exceedingly, for I felt I felt short of all righteousness, & therefore endeavoured
to reform my life by a more strict observance of my duty, especially by reading
praying & frequenting the meetings, which I pursued before those of the
C. Church, because I thought these people were more sincere. I felt I got my
Father being sick, I visited him I was greatly concerned for his salvation,
I therefore found I began by his God, read & pray'd by him, putting the Bible
into his hands, as he began to that portion of Scripture, I remember
that I began in the days of my youth, that when thou art old I may
not be shut from thine eyes. This so affected me that I immediately renounce
giving up all the comfort I had for my dear Father's happiness, trusting to
the Lord for his salvation, taking those words as a demand from God upon
me, notwithstanding the loss of so affectionate a parent affected me, that I
would be so said with him, believing, I should never care to live any more.
In 1793 my Lady also departed & I return'd to London, where I visited John &
Mary Gadsby, who with their Mother Lady Gadsby ^{were} of the C. Church,
but lived in all the gaiety of the world. Here I forgot my former resolutions
I went into all manner of those so called innocent diversions viz: Card &
Dancing, plays &c. yet not without strong conviction of what at times caused
me deep, heavy reflections. In this family I was in the way of inquiry & great
temptations, so that at length I was obliged to leave my place, I got another
in Putney, where all my convictions return'd, I deeply sense of my miserable
condition & desired amenable to one watching me, which met with a ringing the
advice & admonitions of Scripture &c. who endeavored to persuade me that I
had enough, yet I was possessed of the contrary & wanted to be said out of
of God for I firmly believed there were such in the world that they
could

could help me. The house keeper in the family being a relation of the late
Rev. Williams, she invited him one day to tea, which gave me an opportunity
lastly, he went out to ask him what religion he was of. He told me the Church
of England, being convinced he was appearing the same to me, I took the freedom
to ask him if he always went to the Church, he said not always; I desired
to know where, he told me there was a religious society in Fetter Lane,
and I inquired if I might have leave to come, he said yes, as also told me the
time of their meetings, I promised I should endeavour to come for me, which he
faithfully did the next Sunday at 8 in the morning. There I heard Mr. Brown
preach from the Text He was wounded for our transgressions, he was
bruised for our iniquities, the chastisement of our peace was upon him, with
his stripes we are healed. He had not long before the people from
without, talking of, with stones & bricks, breaking the windows & doing much
mischief, so that I was very much frightened & not able to attend to the sermon.
The late Mr. Lloyd for whom I was then in company, said he had that
experience in the Lord that he would not suffer us to be hurt, & when the
speaking was over, ask'd me how I had left off? I said I could not tell,
for altho' I was very desirous to be ear'd, yet I trembled, I shou'd never come any
more there, for I was terribly frightened, & thought that thereby I might lose my
life, consequently I went no more for 3 years, during which time I was sweeping
much to get into a Nursery, & did all in my power to attain to the same, but
as I was informed that I must go to France, for which I had not a ability
otherwise there are several people I did not know, as I was informed they
would give me as this place, at this time there was to be a confirmation
in the Church, when I conversed with many other young women was
confirmed by the Bishop, & the Sunday following partook of the Lord's
Supper during which I felt the Lord blessed me, After all this I got
an inclination to go again to Fetter Lane & found there was a Congregation
& all still there, where I again met with Mr. Williams & Mr. Lloyd whom I
I was directed, a sowed in my heart that they were children of God, & that
I was privileged with going to all the meetings on that
day, whereby I was more divinely assured of my heavenly calling. The
following week Mr. Williams sent me a note to come the next Sunday, as

when I should receive some fulgure to my eyes. I did not understand
his meaning, yet when I was present at another talk to the Women
in the hall ^{of the Rev} ~~of the Rev~~ German which W. B. Manning had interpreted,
& at which was present Anna & Nicholas, I perceived that I was
very much in need of the fulgure that I was come to see.
My coming to the Rev was highly secret from the family, for I was a
year, till at length they got intelligence that I went after a religious
sect of people, which bore an initial & fervent character, & they fearing the
consequence sent for the Minister which had me conferring, & he questioned
me very strictly about the Rev, & said to me whether I truly knew that I
was going among a parcel of sectaries. I told him in my best misapprehen-
sion I was convinced they were Christians of God; he said now had I come
to this knowledge? I told him, that I felt it in my heart, that there was
no salvation but in the Gospel they preached, that I felt in our Saviour
to the forgiveness of sin; a hope which he wish'd me to say what sins
I had committed. I said I felt myself guilty of sin, altho I had been
prejudiced from my outward transgressions & knew I must have forgiveness,
otherwise I could not save. He ask'd me many more questions, so that
at length I grew quite weary went & I told him all the books that
I had then in my possession of the Rev & deliver'd him to read them
attentively & then return them again; with this I left him at that time,
but in a few days he sent for me to his house, returning me that book
saying he would have me consider it well over before I left the
house. I told him I knew what I was about, as also the people I
would he knew them as well. After this conversation he came to our
house & deliver'd my M^o to part with me, being a very dangerous
person & enough to infect his whole house. I felt an exceeding great
love for the Rev people & wish'd more earnestly for appears connect'd
& beg'd our Saviour to make known his love in my heart, & from this
time was converted. Had no righteousness, therefore ceased not to pray
our Saviour for forgiveness & that he would clothe me with his righte-
ousness, which soon after I felt in my heart & was as a new born child
free, it was as if our dear Saviour had shed his blood alone for me, I was
quite happy & every way well. This happiness lasted about 3 months,
but

But not knowing my own poverty I gave myself that I too dined of
revived grace every moment. I grieved dark & miserable & raved against our
various feelings an unwillingness to be strict of every thing I raised a love
myself, I was often frightened at the sight of my self I was wicked to
the last degree. But the dear St. Ghost raised not the work which he had
begun in my heart, but on a Thursday I found a new & unmerited grace I
saw that the Holy Ghost was in my distress & I opened to that love the
wounds of Jesus's precious blood of Jesus's blood thro' his I found again
confidence to our Saviour. I came again to London, I was hired into Mr. Haymond
family, I was rec into the Cong^o which was really blessed to me I
for a long time to partake of the St. Sacrament, but a deep sense of my own
unworthiness & the feeling of my own sinful nature made me afraid to venture
I was a sinner, therefore I waited many longer, I had a particular
for a while I was with Emma & Richard & I. I had a particular
who advised me to leave my place, which readily did come to love for the
I had no more room for admitted to the St. Comm^o which made a gathering
in the house on my heart for I knew I felt in the Lord's body & blood but
nevertheless I often hindered myself for many years, this sin with which I
which occasioned often hours of distress, but the dear St. Ghost often repre-
sented to my heart the suffering & dying love of Jesus to procure my peace,
which made me truly ashamed I asked ^{humble} Comm^o. After my St. Comm^o
I was comforted out dear St. Ghost made to the House of Mercy & I
where I enjoyed a very happy period of a father's favour. I then came to London
into the St. Comm^o I was from London in May 1755 we set out for Dublin where we
arrived July 1756 there was with my dear heart which made my time pass the
better with my much respected St. Comm^o. After his happy departure I had
the power to go to the St. Comm^o where I have enjoyed many very profitable
blessings for my poor heart particularly in the St. Comm^o which I have
enjoyed the St. Comm^o for which I have. In the St. Comm^o I have
known myself better which has brought about many great things to me, in which I
shall feel great fall to my latest breath. I thank God I was admitted among
the St. Comm^o which I have enjoyed very much & salutary I have been
after which I had a great deal of the St. Comm^o I have been admitted to the St. Comm^o
to be among the St. Comm^o where I have remained a great deal of time I have been
in the St. Comm^o where I have been a great deal of time I have been
thankful to be rendered to my gracious God & Father who has led me thus far, I have
now of my everlasting happiness in him.

Since

could
Continuation of the life of Sarah Young, published by her.

When he told the following... Since I came into the very same house
of Silas, the Holy Ghost took me into his school, & showed me that ~~more~~
I ought to love our Saviour more than I did & that I had not that earnest-
desire which I should have for the manifestations of his love to me. Though
he had distressed me from my infancy, yet now he discovered my deep poverty
& helplessness, & during my abode in the same house & in a post-chamber
near by, I was in such agonies sometimes through unbelief & the speaking of my
misery, & if it were not for his love & pity, he would have taken his goods from
me but he did not, but from time to time he helped me, letting me see clearly
that with out him there was no happiness. I felt my soul to take but he drew me
near to himself, & did not let me rest till I could by faith apply his atoning
merits to myself. ^{he may tell} I know that ~~he~~ ^{he} was his & he was mine. If I had been
more faithful to his leading I should have experienced more happiness & have
been more to his honor. I am still his poor child. I see & feel my sinfulness
& that was very clearly towards the marks of grace, but Jesus comforts me, who our
merciful Father all my guilt with patience on the accursed tree. Now my
habit inclination is a deep prostration for my Saviour's pain. To be thereby
enabled so that each one felt it how I love that Man. May his love be
now be all my aim & may I in future love him with my whole heart & ~~all~~ ^{all} ~~heart~~
his ~~love~~ ^{love} eternally though I shall fall short in time & eternity. I can
never praise sufficiently for what he has done to me his most precious child.
His Holy Spirit often reproveth ^{me} but when with contrition I ~~come~~ ^{come} to him, he
forgave me again. In short I live by his forgiveness. He ~~does~~ ^{owes} ~~me~~ ^{all} ~~for~~ ^{me}
with ~~kindness~~ ^{kindness} of a Mother. O that I could praise my heavenly Father and my
Saviour & I could better than I do. O that I could never forget his goodness to me
and that I have often by my great sins been provoked, yet he
mercifully ~~has~~ ^{has} ~~often~~ ^{often} ~~forgiven~~ ^{forgiven} me. ~~but~~ ^{but} my good Saviour still remained the same
for I will praise him as well as I can, & ~~will~~ ^{shall} do it better when I see him.

There fore I am ever yours, he will hear my cry and the following.