

Mary Alott

Was born at Barksland, in the Parish of Elland. On the 12th of Dec^r 1734. N.S.

When she was about Three years old her Father dyed & she liv'd with her Mother & her Aunt (namely Betty Midgley) who jointly Nurs'd & Maintain'd ^{her} till she was about Seven, then her Mother being again Married her Aunt left them took a Room & design'd to live by herself, But ^{Mary} not being at all willing to be left behind often begg'd her Aunt to take her with her, which according ^{ly} in a few weeks after she willingly did & cared for her as her Own.

When she was about Nine years old she by the Drawing of the Holy Ghost was inclin'd to hear the Gospel which she of her own accord begun & Continued Constantly to do.

Some time after her Aunt had a Mind for the more Convenience of hearing the Word to live nearer Smith House & so she made it out with the Brethren that Mary should also come & remain with her which she was very glad off.

In July 1748 they Both of them together got leave to live with the single sisters in Black-Heaton & she remain'd there & in the same Economy at Tyre-sell-Hall till we came in the (Choir House) (Which I shall take Notice of afterwards)

In the year 1751 on the 5th of April she was receiv'd in the Congregation which Pleas'd

her very much. In 1753 on the 25 of February she after many a hearty wish & earnest longing for it was admitted to the Lords Supper. In the same year was received from the Great Lord to the single Sisters (Horr).

She has since about 10, or 11, years Old, carried about a very sickly & weakly Tabernacle which she bore without complaint & being of an exceeding still quiet, but also very solid & sensible ~~Disposition~~ Disposition she was seldom heard to speak about any thing except when spoken to: But however as we now have found she took good Notice of every thing & Pondered them in her Heart.

In February this present year she had the Small-Pox which not only went very hardly with her but also left that remaining on her which rendered her much more weak & sickly than before a Consumption appearing thro' her & hole for a while: It was manifest to all about her she could not hold it out long, tho' she herself would commonly say when ask'd about it that she was pretty well. Never the less what the inwardly felt brought her ^{also} upon the thoughts & consideration of going to Our Saviour (as she afterwards declared with Joy.)

In July she was a little better but the disorder presently returned more strong than ever. Yet she continued to walk about till the 22^d of November then she entirely took her to her Room & soon after to her Bed.

Now she freely acknowledging that she had all this summer last, been in a continual Meditation & Consultation with her dear Saviour about

about her going to him, having ^{all} along been sensible of it for herself that she should not stay here but the Reason why she would not confess it openly was, because she was afraid she should not go as soon as she wish'd for.

She was now exceeding Bad, but quite brisk in ^{her} spirits & chearful in Heart & Soul, & as before even Ever since we have known her she has been us'd to speak very little, so now to the contrary ^{she} spoke a great deal especially to those with whom she had had an intimate acquaintance & Particularly with Our dear Sister Mary who very faithfully visited her all the time.

On the 12th instant she had her Birth Day (being 20 years old,) when many Sisters who visited her Express'd their hearty wishes for her which she receiv'd, & answer'd, with much Satisfaction: In the Afternoon her Class made her a Very Pretty Love Feast which rejoiced her Exceedingly & in which she spoke of her Departure with such Pleasure & Delight as she never had done before; she spoke with Sister Mary & Made out every thing that was in her Mind about her Peril, as well as all the hearty wishes & desires of her heart for her Class &c. In short she said that this had been to her the Happiest day she ever had had in all her Life. This day & forward she unbosom'd & declar'd what she had (Perhaps) kept Treasur'd up in her Heart to this Opportunity for some years Past. She spoke of her various Troubles & Anxieties in Particular Circumstances

-Annes

would secretly sometimes say to her Aunt that she believed she should live till Christmas, but if our Saviour Pleas'd to take her before, she would be glad.

Sunday last about 11 or 12 in the evening she was seiz'd with the most violent pain so that Sister Mary who at the same time watch'd with her Perceiv'd such a senseless Alteration not only by her Excessive Pains but also by the Motion & Alteration of all her Faculties that she thought she really would go, & thereupon ask'd her if she was now quite Ready: she with Pleasure & serenity answer'd "yes I am quite Ready now & shall be glad to go to my Lamb as soon as he Pleases."

However she reviv'd a little & then desired 2 Verses which she nam'd to be sung for her viz. Appear as her Protector who turns to Joy all Tears, &c. When she shall get Permission to leave this Mortal Tent, From Pains & Griefs Dispmission Thy Self just then Present &c. And then says she "Sing Hush stir not up the friend of Christ, make not the lovely Bride &c."

She was very Bad all Night & Lay like one Expiring till toward Night on Monday yet she bore her Pains with much more Patience ^{than} any one could Expect who did but see how she was Monday night she was somewhat easier & appear'd to us as if she might possibly continue a few days, But if she heard any one take notice of the near Approach of

Christmas & of the Joy we Expected in the Birth day of our Saviour. She would readily answer them that if our Saviour only was Pleas'd to let her go to him before or in the Holiday, she should have a far Better Christmas than We and that she would be very glad of.

Tuesday Night she Alter'd again & on Wednesday Morning was much worse. In the fore noon we thought again she would soon be Depart. But she continued and lay severely Oppress'd with the most Excessive Pangs thro' her Limb & Fibre, Speaking very little, But ~~Parting~~ in Silence for the happy Moment when she should get the Departing Kiss, and when sometimes her Tabernacle seem'd to be almost Rack'd in Pieces with the most shocking & Excessive Pain as almost could be thought. Impossibly a Human creature could bear, she ~~herself was concerned how she~~ would say "Ah! how shall I hold it Out? Why does he not fetch me? Sister Mary then would remind her of the Hard Toil & Conflict of our Saviour which he bore in his Humanity, saying My dear Heart it is but a few Minutes & you will be with him. She that Moment was again in a Calm Serenity & Peace, ^{Heavenly} said O! yes he soon will fetch me to his Embraces, Which she Obtain'd Under these Words, The Lamb with all his Grief & smart Remains the Pleasure of thy Heart Long as it Moves in Thee And Now when Here it Beats no more There where the Spear His Side did bore Thou hast thy Place Eternal, and

so she sweetly went to sleep in the Arms of
her Lover about 5 o' Clock in the Evening
on Christmas Day.

It is to be Observ'd that this dear Heart
was the Only One Great-Girl in all the
Economies was One of the first that was
Receiv'd in the Congregation The Only One
that came in the Choir House at first
She was the first that was admitted to the
Sacrament. And Now, the first that is gone
to Our Saviour: Where she Rests from all her
Pain: And has Left behind her the Char-
acter of an Honest Upright Unaffected
& Enamour'd Virgin Heart. She has been
Known by those who have liv'd with her from
her first coming ^{among us} to this Her Disolution to be
an Example of Patience of Meekness &
Constancy in her Love to him who first gave
her Confidence to believe in his Wounds, she
never Once having been Perceiv'd to Draw back
or to slight her Calling in Joy or in Smart,
and Now at last her Mouth has made ~~a~~
a Brief Confession of Him Whom her Heart
has Loved & Believ'd on.

