

The Course of Life of Anna Rogers

I was born at Bedford on the 15 of August 1743 and lived with my Parents till I was 7 years old, at that time I had not the least concern about our Saviour; but still I remember I was always afraid of dying, in the year 50 I and my two Sisters were taken into the Sisters House to live amongst the Children, I by my unbroken self-wild disposition caused the Sisters a great deal of trouble and Concern which I was very sensible of and out of Pity to the Sisters used to make resolutions that I would alter, for the better yet all that was to no purpose for I being naturally of a Proud unbusiness like and fretful temper could bear to be found fault with all tho' I knew I was to blame and often felt pain in account of it I told our Saviour what a poor creature I was and sometimes begd him with tears to come to my Assistance and let me feel his grace in my heart amidst all my untowardness I was fully convinced that our Saviour Persuad me very closely tho' I strove to put him off and went on in a dry and indifferent manner, and by so doing tryd our Saviours Patience exceeding but his love towards me his poor Child never ceased; at certain time I was overcome in a pious full manner particularly in those Meetings which our Children kept amongst our selves, as in our singing hours were his precious nearness was so captivating to my heart that I often burst out into a flood of tears on the 17 August 53 that never to be forgotten day Dr Selicht who was then at Bedford kept a long feast with the asking us in a tender manner if we from this time on would surrender our selves to our Saviour and then he desired us to Prostrate before him this being the first Meeting of that kind I ^{ever was} present at I was seized with love and awe in such a manner that my heart melted into tears at the thro' bow feet of our friend and lover whose precious nearness left a deep impression upon my poor heart In 54 I went live in the Occomony at Chelsea where I had the grace and favour sometime to enjoy the Meetings which the dear Disciple kept when the Lords Occomony

removed to Fulbeck I also went with them and ~~would~~ lived very cheerfully
in the beginning but my debarity began to grow stronger and stronger and
lost that child like feeling which I had had of our Saviour and by degrees
became more and more indifferent in my heart in 36 I was received into
the great girls Choir in which I did not spend my time to our Saviour nor
my Sisters satisfaction and being conversed of it I began to be exceedingly
uneasy in my mind and wished that I might once be made sensible of
the cause of my unhappiness and why I did not prosper but I did not
not know my own heart neither our Saviours intention I was obliged to
wait long before I was received into the Congregation and therefore I was
apt to think that I was forgotten by my B^m and I res^t but I found
afterwards that my heart at that time was not prepared for it as I
began to discover so much of my own sinfulness I lost all hopes of
being received how ever our Saviour granted me this grace on the 21
of August which proved a real blessing to me at that time I thank
our Saviour to grant me an abiding sin feeling of his nearness &c
Let me once experience the forgiveness of all my sins but I soon lost
that desire again grew cold in my heart and gave up all hopes that I
should ever be other ways sometimes I used to think in a reasoning way
that our Saviour did not hear my Prayers and my good resolutions
were all to no purpose this reflection made me grow quite negligent
about my self and everything else I resolved to be no more concerned
it might go as it wiled in this unhappy disposition of heart and mind
I went for some time and there by caused the Sisters many anxious
hours and it was as if I could not help it this much distressed with
condemnation in my own heart in the year 59 I and two other Girls was
to go and live in that single Sisters house I hardly knew how to take this
as I thought my self very unfit in body and mind for it and the
more as I knew no other but that I should have to work for my living
by spinning this went very hard with me for I did not like that work
at all in former respects I thought that I should like better than I
did in the Economy but when it came to it it did not go well
with me in regard to the fore mentioned Occasion, when I saw some
Sisters admitted the holy Communion which had not been so long
in the Congregation as I this brought me in a certain concern again

about my self I had not been long in the Choir house before I got
a very ill pain in my side which at last proved a swelling I was
under the Doctor's hand who try'd all means to relieve me but to little
purpose I often felt heavy on that account but still I believ'd our
Saviour knew best for what he intended to lay this upon me I then
flow'd over him from the bottom of my heart that he might let
me feel his grace that so I might bear my pains with patience
and become more resigned according to his heart which he did and I
believe he had good reason for bringing me in these circumflances
for as I have since seen that he very likely could not have gain'd his
full aim with me May 62 I was received into the single sister
Choir which proved a peculiar day of grace for me I beg our
Saviour that he to make me a true Virgin for him and from that time
on felt a more cordent desire to become still better acquainted with
him and get my heart sprinkled with his blood so that he might
once obtain his full aim with me thus I went on in a confident
manner relying upon our Saviour as a poor needy sinner my
longing and desire after the Communion much increas'd but as I felt
very timorous about my self this was the reason why I did not speak
much to my labours about it but more earnestly beg'd our Saviour
first to prepare my heart for it my Body it self grew worse so
that I was oblig'd intirely to lake to the sick room in 63 being
Monday ^{June 11 1694} I was made a Candidate I was made for the holy
Communion which unexpected grace bow'd me down in the dust
at bedside room's feet and he was pleas'd to step before my
heart in that Figure where in he did sweat blood in the
Garden and was nail'd to the Cross on my account to redeem
me lost and undone to relieve this left an abiding impression
upon my heart and from that time on I became more chearfull
happy and contented and my chief desire was to live for our
Saviour and become according to his mind yea to adore him
in for his unweary'd love and patientious to wards me the 30
of July I had the unspeakable favour granted me to become
a partaker of his Body and blood in the Holy Sacrament how I felt
at the enjoyment of this my highest good I am not able to express

Ch
gr
w
w
w
w
w
t
g
g
During a brief feeling of her friends from nearness in the 22 year of her age in Oct
the 23 1763

in words my heart was melted like wax before my dearest & loved who
tenderly towards me her poor sinners has been with out com-
~~pare~~ ^{incomparable} I now spend my time waiting for the kiss from
his holy lips with a heart full of gratitude for all grace &
blessings which I have received at his hands and he has now made
all things ease to me even in regard to my outward circumstances
so that I have nothing to disturb my mind with and I am glad
to go to him as a poor sinner, and will kiss his thro' bow feet with
my thankful tears. so far her own words.
Our happily departed Sisters fretful and sinners dispose in
caused her self much uneasy rest of heart and mind but for all that
she did something very agreeable which greatly gain her Sisters
love and tenderness, altho we must own that her converse this
time has not been as we could have wished, yet it was plainly
perceived that she never was without a feeling from our Saviour
in her heart which proved an encouragement to those who had to do
with her and particularly in her last ill ness which she bore with
great patience as she believed that by these means our Saviour
would comfort her for him self 3 weeks before her departure she
got a very troublesome Cough which caused a great alteration in
her and she used to say that she felt as if her time would not
belong have order her matters accordingly, Sister Buryall, the
day before the Communion she asked for her self in a very
sinners (hoan) tender manner how cheer full and satisfied she
felt and quite ready to go to our Saviour when ever he would be
pleased to call her the 23 she received once more the holy Sacrament
with a hungry and thirsty heart and on the 24 she was exceedingly
weak but spoke with such a presence of mind that we were
quite surprized, she desired that the Sisters might be permitted
to come and see her, as she would be glad to beg their pardon
wherein she had grieved them and thus take leave of both Sisters
and her this was granted her and the tender and sinners little
expressions in these her last moments drew many tears from
all present, she prayed in a very moving manner to our dear
father that he would now take her to him self, a short rest & at
last her body has been ordered this nation of the healing power went
over into health, her body could with the blessing of her Saviour