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The Life of the Single Sister Sarah Craven who departed
in Fulneck Nov^r 10-17 90.

I was born at Rothwell near Leeds in Yorkshire Nov^r 11th 1719 and
lived with my Parents till my Father died who belonged to the
Church of England, When I was a Child I often wish'd to die, for
I thought at that age I should be saved; but if I liv'd to grow
up to be a Woman I should come into things which would hinder
me from attaining eternal happiness. When I came into riper
years I follow'd the World with eagerness, tho' not with satisfaction
for I often felt uneasy in my mind, but put it off, resolving to
grow better, but still went on in my old way. After my Father's
death I went to live with my Uncle, and was with him when Mr
Ingham came into those parts, but soon after went to live with my
Mother; she ask'd me to go with her to hear him preach, but I
declin'd it for this reason, I believ'd if I was one of his followers
I must renounce the World; which was my chief Object at that time
Soon after he came again to preach nearer to our habitation; my
Mother urg'd me to go with her which I could not help complying with
tho' spiritually dead, and the discourse had no effect, and I wonder'd

what induc'd people to run after him, my Mother invited him to
Preach at our House but he did not chuse to do it except we
would have a Society settled, to which she consented, In the mean
time my Mother spoke very closely to me about the state of my
Soul; thus prepar'd I went to hear him again, During his Sermon
I was made sensible of my lost condition. I wish'd I could alter,
and thought I had better be deprived of this worlds pleasure than
lose my immortal Soul. I thought I could part with every thing
I had in the World to be assur'd of my Salvation; but fear'd it
was impossible. In this miserable state I continued a long time
and came into self working. by degrees my misery wore off and
I concluded this was the right way to do all the good that was in my
power, so my conscience was to be appeas'd, but being of a hasty
temper and sometimes overcome with passion, my good opinion
of my self vanish'd and I became miserable again. In the Year
1740. Mr Ingham and Mr Telloshie came to our House. the latter
could not speak English, but his look made a particular impression
on me and I believ'd him to be indeed a Child of God. In a short time
after this Visit our Society was dissolv'd, which troubled me very
much. One of them and my self desir'd to be admitted into another Society
which was soon after the case with a small company at Holbeck near
Leeds; But not having the pleasure to see Mr & Mrs - often, I grew dry
in my heart, Upon being ask'd to be Servant in a Family, I at first
refus'd

refus'd but being earnestly intreated I at last accepted and went to
the place. I was very uneasy in it for I found I had no freedom
to mix in worldly company, but was oblig'd to stay my time
out. The night before I left my place, I drew that Verse, When
I was lost and far had stray'd. Into a Desert wild &c. the day
after when I was with my Mother some Sisters came to see me, I
told them what had pass'd, they advis'd me to make a new beginning
and then our Saviour and the B^m would forgive me these words
comforted me for I did not expect to hear such from them. The first
meeting I went to after their Visit, B^m Telloshie kept on the following
words "ye cannot serve two Masters" it seem'd as if he directed
his discourse to me alone and I determin'd to have our Saviour
alone for my Master. a short time after I was advis'd to live with
two Sisters in Holbeck. I did so, but my situation was not at first
agreeable to me, I did not remain long with them being desir'd by
B^m Telloshie to go to Leeds to wait on a Sick Sister, but soon became
sick myself. as I had then no money left to help me I perswaded to
live with my Mother with whom I remain'd till she died. The day
before she departed a Sister visit'd her ^{with her} where she would like to have
me situated; she reply'd, among the Sisters, But after her death I
felt such a strong attachment to my Relation that I thought I could
not part with them, which brought me again into trouble and quite
at a loss what to do, When I was by my self my faithful Monitor
convinc'd me once more that I was not in my right place to stay then
would be dangerous for my Soul. I immediately set off to acquaint

my former Labors and disclosed my whole case, She recommended me to another Family in Holbeck, this was in the year 1750 I attended the preaching in Fulneck every Sunday. Mr. Labors Sermons were a real blessing to me and I frequently imagined that he knew my inmost thoughts, I had no rest day nor night on account of the burden of my sins, One day as I was by myself earnestly entreating our Saviour to manifest himself unto me, he granted my request and gave me a full assurance of the forgiveness of my sins, which came with such power that it melted me into tears from this time and particularly during my stay in that Family, I received many blessings from our Saviour, This was a particular period with the Brethrens Congregation, their enemies in those parts where not afraid to prognosticate their ruin notwithstanding this I wished for a still closer union with them and importuned to be a member of the Cong^y. The two Mrs for me to leave Holbeck and I was placed at last to my great joy in the single Mrs Economy at Gomersal May 20th 1755, and was soon at home with them, tho, it proved a new school for my heart. The 3^d of March 1756 I was informed would be a general Congregation Day, I got an impression on that day I should have the favor to be added thereto, I therefore kept a band with our Saviour sensible of my poverty and helplessness yet comforted with his nearness.

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In this situation of mind according to my impression I was received into the Cong^y on the above mentioned ~~that~~ day which proved a great blessing to me — Thus far her own account.

April 20th 1756 our late Sister removed from Gomersal to live in the Choir House here. March 21st 1757 she partook of the holy Communion with the Congregation for the first time, It was evident notwithstanding all human imperfection that she had found her peace with our Saviour — She knew in whom ^{she} believed and was persuaded that he was able to keep that which she had committed unto him, this helped her through every trying circumstance she met with; her call to the Cong^y of Jesus she valued highly and often spoke of it with the greatest gratitude. It was a particular ^{pleasure} to her to serve her Sisters in any little matters she was able to do which she did with great faithfulness as long as her strength would admitt of it. The beginning of this year an Astmatick complaint which she had labored under many years grew very troublesome to her, so that she was obliged in Jan^y to move into the Sick Room, when her longing to be at home with our Saviour increased daily, It gave her much pain when two of her companions in the Sick

Room

room were called home before her, she suffered much in her sickness which made her sometimes rather impatient and thinks the time long, but she would soon recollect herself again and intreated our Saviour to give her a childlike resignation to his will that she might not grieve him by her impatience. The night before her departure, she said I am waiting for our Saviour to come and fetch ~~her~~ me, he will not be long now before he comes I shall then see him for my self; sickness and sorrow will have an end, He will wipe all tears from my Eyes. That night she spent in great Weakness but in ^{wonder} ~~goodness~~ with her best Friend. On 10th the happy moment came when she departed in a soft and easy manner to her dear Redeemer with the blessing of her Choir, half past 10 o'clock in the forenoon, during a sensible feeling of our dear Lords presence, in the 72nd Year of her Age.