

The Course of Life of the Single Sister Sarah Mather
I was born at Southwam Feb. 16. 1700 & bapt^d in
the Church of England, & many drawings of face
was perceptible to me in my Childrens years which
I made use of by the duty of the Church in hope
of pleasing God, to the saving of my Soul from
Eternal Destruction, & as I grew in years I believed
myself in such a state of happiness preferable to my
dear mother that I became so concerned about her that
that I could have no heaven in Germany without her
tho' I had no knowledge of one tho' or that there was
any other Salvation then what was founded on a
religious Life & conversation — experienced a real
earnest in my heart & so any one that thought themselves
better than myself, yet at the same time felt many
infirmities in me After the wit & vanities of the world
& plainly perceived that my pious course of Life was
a continual disappointment to me to the working
up wrath & discontentment, & when my 18th told me that
my Sister had experienced the forgiveness of her sins
in the bitterness of my Soul I said it was all false hope &
delusion for there was no such thing to be attained, my
necessities of heart brought me to frequent the meetings
kept by the Brethren at Smithhouse & also at my fathers
yet amidst all this I did not so venture upon any
A

foundation
then my own works & self-righteous ^{for my work & righteousness} quotations from
the scriptures ^{for my work & righteousness} remain as hard as stone
& I found it a perplexing circumstance to my mind ^{when} I
when ever I thought of being separated from my wife
either in time or in eternity ^{when} continued with my parents
till they both departed out of time which to the best
of my remembrance was about my 35 years I
supply my self chiefly to the preachings especially those
kept by Mr Spinningburgh which proved a great
blessing to me I was also look into books & Chaps to
amongst the single ladies, & at last all came many
deepening conviction of my lost condition particularly
at my spinning one day I was seized with ^{such} terrors
of Hell & damnation that I saw my self in a most
worn situation then Judas, who betrayed the son
of life & glory, those terrors was succeeded by a
comfortable appearance that my crucified Saviour had
died for all my sins; the cheerfulness of heart
which now enjoyed sweetened all the labour of my
attendance of my sick ^{who had some} brother ^{who had some} which had been some
years confined unto his bed, & as I was one day going
to fulness to the meeting, I put me self a verse of psalm
oh Church of God redeemed bride, believe it & thereby abide
his strength & refreshment my heart so as if a Saviour-covenant
with me to remain his & his people forever more
July 24 1740 I was received into the congregation which

which was a great grace to me, my 35th from the
time Iaken very perceptibly & thro' the repeated
visits of the Spirit ^{got} a clear manifestation of
our Saviour redeeming love & departed happily in a
comfortable reliance of his blood merits, & in 2 months
time I had the opportunity given to remove into the
Oranome at Cuckbeaton in which place I enjoyed many
happy hours & days & from thence remove to the Oranome
at low house & also after that upon the Hill as I became
infectable in my health it gave me a better opportunity to
enjoy the meeting of my choir & congregation & on Aug¹⁴
1749. I had the inexpressible grace to become a partaker
of the body & blood of Jesus Christ, which was
a matter of great triumph for me poor unworthy worm
at the removal of the choir into the choir house
I was one of that number, that had the grace to be one
of the first inhabitants, & enjoyed that particular
privilege of being at the choir communion kept
by the dear disciples & have enjoyed all the blessed
privileges of the choir house to the mutual edification
& blessing of my heart which thro' the various ^{edification}
of the dear Holy Spirit have got to see what a poor creature
& spoiled creature I have been & am by nature, but thro
his bloody merits I have been enabled to walk my course
with joy & comfort as a poor sinner, & with from the
bottom of my heart to have been seen more & more

more & more of that great Happiness that is enjoy^{able}
in a humble & summer like walk & conversation yet
amid all my great poverty & inability of heart
to be in any wise away & satisfaction to my dear Sav^r
yet in his abundant Love & mercy he would suffer
to permit to the grace of being Chained in
in which period I felt my chain new & dear to me
Even so have cost me tears to break which an inability
& unworthiness to such a grace & the dearest of
offer testified to my heart that was O^r & his rich
merits was sufficient for me & my chain & I was
glad & thankful to let go all self righteousness &
feel my self a needy sinner before my Lord & Saviour
thru Jesus Christ,