

"I was born June the 12<sup>th</sup> A.D. 1712 in Reading Berks."  
I was baptiz'd in the Church of England and brought up in that Communion.  
The first thing I remember is, the simple and happy intercourse I  
lived in with the Lord: I knew he lov'd me, and I lov'd him; & therefore  
used to have recourse to him without the least reserve.  
When I was about 5 Years old, I remember to have been particularly  
naughty & scoldish, which caused me much heaviness; tho' I strove all  
I could to divert, and get rid of the Constriction by play &c. But  
running hastily into my Mothers room, where she was sitting with  
my late B<sup>r</sup> John - then an Infant - lying in her lap -  
I saw her weeping with lifted up hands, and heard her pray - I was  
much affected. But felt so hard, to acknowledge my fault, but  
upon repeatedly asking my Mother, why she cried, and what she  
was saying? She explain'd the Cause to me, and said, "I was praying  
for you and for your Brother." - This pierc'd me thoroughly, and I  
thought my heart would break. For I thought, The Lord also is  
grieved. I therefore silently with down, condemn'd, and ashamed,  
and hasted to a private Place, where with many Tears, I besought  
him to forgive me; which he most graciously did mercifully, and  
all my Burthen instantly removed.

My Father and his Relations being all Quakers of the  
most primitive sort, and my Mother and hers all strict Church  
of England; tho' attachment to, and chief acquaintance were the  
Glorious, so that I had the Opportunity of an intimate familiarity  
with<sup>out</sup>, not perceiving, at this time, the least division on either Side.

Our Parish Vicar and his Family was a part of our  
most intimate acquaintance, and his Daughter, who had taken  
a liking to me from my Infancy, calling me her own Child,  
at last prevailed with my Parents, to take me more particularly  
home to her; But our houses joining each other, I was nearly  
as much with my Parents as I was with them. This Lady,  
taking me, to a friends house with her, I slip'd out from  
the Company, and saw two small Boats fasten'd to the  
Landing Place in a deep Moot, I got into one of them  
and stach'd out of it, to the Side of the other Boat.  
When both parting, and swaining from each other,  
had dragg'd me out of that I staid in, had not the toes  
of my shoes hitch'd in something, and prevented it.  
Thus hanging over the Water between both - I had  
scarce time to give my self up for lost, Before I slip'd  
my hold and pitch'd into the Water, where to my joyful  
surprise, instead of sinking, I found, as it were, Hands

bearing so strong against my hands as to get and keep my head above water. Yea, these kind of assaults bore me up so long, even till I was capable of taking hold with one hand of that Boat, wherein, all the while my shins had hit the; but how I recovered wholly, I never could remember, only, that, as I came to my self, I was flat on my Back, safe and well. I know, who these ministers were, whose kinder Orders they Obed, and thanked them, and then, my Friend, begging them 100 times over: I pray don't let it be forgotten &c, Which, however remarkable, never was.

The parish vicar

I was this Gentleman's fond Companion also, and often did unobserved to him, when he was retired to private Devotion, sometimes I stood behind, and at other times close by his side, that I might be a partaker of those influences, which I believed, he enjoyed.

As I grew older, I had more liberty among the Servants, who endeavoured to seduce me and bring me into all manner of Wickedness, as much as they could. But finding me frightened, and fearing I should tell, they threatened me hard, what they would do to me, if I did. This brought me more particularly to my own Heart Friend, and they let me alone for sometime; till one evening, I went into a back garden, where a company of themselves got, but I did not know nor think of them, till I was almost shocked to death, and could scarce stagger into the house. The very Passage, the Lord met me, comforted me, and gave me the assurance in my Heart, "He would preserve me for himself for ever." This Promise has always been a secret comfort to me, all my Course through - yea even, when in the highest of my Tolls in the World. - I was near 8 years old, I made a memorandum of this important Day. I was kept more close to my learning, and was instructed in all the Principles of the Church; I also got courage to discover those notorious deceivers, without their knowing it was me. Yet my Heart departed from its dearest Object, and I became as formal and vain as any Body; I saw myself a fair candidate for the World; but also, Ruin, Destruction, and eternal death, stood as fair before me. This made me go on heavily, but I could tell no one. And as I was under Preparation for the H. Com. I was the more distressed; Sometimes in despair, and sometimes desperate. In this Situation I went to Evening Prayers, but I could neither pray, nor desire. I was so condemn'd, But in the Beginning of the last Prayers, my Heart became as melting Wax, and as such a Wretch I turn'd again to my Friend, and beg'd for mercy, and got confidence to trust and rely on him. I had sometime before privately made it out in my own mind, that, as Opportunity should serve, I would privately retire to a Cellister, and in that especial manner dedicate myself to the Lord forever.



Early in the year it was thought proper by my Friends that I should go to London for further Improvement. I was received with the greatest heartiness, and every one was kindly officious in bringing me to publick Places, and shewing me the Curiosities of the Town. I saw the glory of the World - and loved it, and concluded, as I had often seen did, I was made for the World, for it suited my Inclination and last every way; And I had well nigh set through all Conventions, though at the Bottom I had a condemn'd heart and guilty Conscience. My Mother being in London at this time took me with her to see a Friend of hers in Bedlam, and surveying the many shocking objects there, she turned to me and said: "This is the effect of Love and Pride. I made her no answer; but despairing by thought, and this will be one day be my unhappy case unless God exert his Almighty Power in rescuing me."

I acquainted my Mother privately to <sup>my</sup> ~~my~~ giving all my Acquaintance the Slip; But was soon surrounded with my old Friends and Acquaintance, who were very desirous to hear more, and learn more particularly the Tendencies of the Town. I told them I was quite tired of all those things, and therefore resolv'd soon to retire from all, and come and live in a quiet different way. Many of them where inclin'd to make one of the company, when I came to settle at home, it could be made out.

From this time I had no rest for my poor distressed Heart's mind. Therefore in my 21<sup>st</sup> year I left London the last time, to put in practice what I had so long purposed, renouncing my Acquaintance with the most solid and religious Part of my Friends. I followed as near as I could, Slip for Slip, with my Mother & Brother, who had begun some time ago a more religious Course of Life; But, alas! I grew faint hearted and tired. And seeing all my Works, Prayers and Duties, good for nothing at all, and I myself that same detestable creature as ever I was, I cry'd out in the Bitterness of my Soul: O Lord Jesus Christ, if this is the way to Heaven, I shall never come there. - My distress still increases, being more & more sensible of my Degeneracy; But above all did my base ingratitude to my once so tender Lover fill me with horror and Dejection.

We had heard of the Awakening in Oxford, where my B. went, got acquainted with several, and brought Mr. Hunching to our house; and afterwards Mr. Welfys, Hutchins, Whitfield &c. I was much perplex'd in my own mind at this rash (as I thought then) proceeding of my Brothers, fearing a Schism in the Church. But being convinced of the truth of their Doctrine, was soon as zealously attach'd thereto. But the Preaching being in our House, it made a great stir in the Town, and caus'd us much Trouble and disgrace; So that my Mother, hearing of it in London, came home, and put an intire Stop to it.

Herrington

Hereupon my Brother went to Bristol, and I, and a well disposed single Woman took a house in the Town, but the Preaching was given up. By these means I got the ill Will of all my Friends and Relations. My Acquaintance also shun'd me, and every ones Face was set against me. Thus forsaken of all, and destitute of my best Friend, I grew dejected, and quite melancholy.

In 1740 I visited Kingswood and Bristol; but could not be reconciled to those Agitations among the Methodists at that time. Here I had happiness of seeing first our d<sup>r</sup> Bro<sup>r</sup> Toellthig, who seeing my concern, helped me much. I soon returned to Reading exceedingly distressed; And finding my dear Companion so happy in our Sav<sup>r</sup> and myself so wretched, I gave up all hopes of ever being said. But here in one moment did my most gracious Saviour reveal Himself to me, forgive me all my sin, and in an instant I was dispossessed of every Pain: I could hardly tell if I was in the Body or not. For my heart saw nothing but Jesus. I felt after Sin: but behold! there was no Sin. I felt after my own guilt and Distress, but there was no Place found for them, and nothing but light surrounded me. I had not enjoyed this happiness long, before my venerable Companion fell happily asleep on the Bosom of her eternal Bridegroom.

At my return the former Disturbances were renewed, many were distressed concerning their Salvation, And the Clergy being greatly perplexed, endeavoured to put me to Trouble; But our Saviour kept me stay'd upon Him, and deliver'd me safe out of their Hands. I gave up my House, and went again to Kingswood, where Mr Whitfield, my B<sup>r</sup> and others were separated from Mr Welflys, and had begun a more regular Society, and gave me the care of the single Women, with whom I laboured as well as I could; But knowing my own Insufficiency, and seeing many Irregularities creeping in among the young People, I told my Bro<sup>r</sup> this was not what suited me; and therefore I came to Reading, where a Widow Quaker Gent<sup>l</sup> Woman had long and often desired I would stay with her and take her House as my own: I did so, And all my Quaker Friends were exceedingly kind to me, and earnestly wished me to settle amongst them; I would have done it, but had no leave from our Sav<sup>r</sup> in my own Heart. My Mind was secretly hankering after a Brother. But my Bro<sup>r</sup> desiring my Assistance at Tetherton, I went to him; and with all the Money I had, Goods & Furniture, engaged with him, and the Peace of God ruled & rested upon us.

In 44 I went on a Visit to London, where our late S<sup>r</sup> Stonehouse brought me acquainted with my ever dearest Anna Johanna, with whom my Heart was tenderly united, as was hers to me. — I had



I had heard of the Order among the Single Sisters, and that it was something like a Nunery, which excited my enquiry, and I was introduced to our Brethren, who had already contributed a large Sum of money to the care, and went on a Visit to Lhaag, and from thence to Ireland. In his absence I had the favour of a Visit at Teshstadt, from our late D<sup>r</sup> Disciple and Disciple, Arnold, Anna Johanna &c. The Disciple was particularly hearty with me, to whom, at first, I was somewhat reserved; But coming upon heart Matthew, I was quite opened, and she spoke to me in the most comfortable and encouraging manner, telling me, how tenderly she and her Company felt towards me, and assuring me of our Saviour's Thoughts of Peace concerning me.

My Brother soon after returned, who told me yet more about the single Sister, and how earnestly he had Prayed our Sav<sup>r</sup> to bring one into their happy fold. That he knew it was just a Regulation as would please me. Upon duly weighing the matter before our Sav<sup>r</sup>, I wrote to my much respected Friend, the D<sup>r</sup> Disciple for leave to visit the Cong<sup>o</sup> in Germany, who readily granted me the favour. My Mother, also, at this time, was well inclined towards to Bre<sup>n</sup>; But meeting with some unhappy circumstances, she was turn'd quite against them: And tho I was much staggered, yet our Sav<sup>r</sup> preserved me, and gave me courage to persevere in my Purpose; Yet I had it hard to get away, and was forced to leave her against her Will.

In March 1747 I arrived with many more English Brethren and Sisters, together with B<sup>r</sup> & S<sup>r</sup> Telschig in Lhaag, where I met with the most cordial reception from our D<sup>r</sup> Disciple & Disciples. The Congregation and its regulations I saw with wonder and delight, especially that of the S. Sister. — My first Intention only was to visit the Cong<sup>o</sup>, and not to become a Member thereof; But in London, on my way thither, being a Spectator at the Holy Communion, I was so affected I grew suspicious, till I was quite confus'd; But having an unreserved Confidence to the late d<sup>r</sup> Disciple, I told her all my Concern, who with the greatest tenderness & Frankness cleared up those matters which had given me so much pain. I now become quite happy and saw the Cong<sup>o</sup> in a right light, and the Beginning of that happy Period, which the H<sup>l</sup> Ghost had so many years been preparing me for. I had the Grace to be received into the Congregation the same year.

Was soon after confirmed and in Jan<sup>y</sup> 1748 was made a happy Partaker of the Lords Body and Blood in the H<sup>l</sup> Communion! Here also I had the Grace to be admitted into the Class of Intercessors, and soon after set out with B<sup>r</sup> & S<sup>r</sup> Boehler &c. for England: Our D<sup>r</sup> Papa, Mamma, the Mother, Anna Johanna &c. accompanied us to Frankfurt, where

where, after many Blessings, the next day we proceeded on our journey in the Peace of God, and blessing of the Congregation.

After staying sometime in London, I was sent to Fulneck, where I was one of the Cong<sup>n</sup> Servants, Choir Servant & Helper. In June 1750 I was called to London, where I enjoyed many blessings in the Dear Disciples House in Bloomsbury Square. From whence I was sent to Dublin to have the Care of the S. Sis<sup>rs</sup>. There and in the north of Ireland. The same year I visited the North, and the Year after was sent there; where also, as in Dublin our Sav<sup>r</sup> accompanied, blessed and prospered me; gave me the Hearts of the Sisters, for whom I have ever retained the tenderest affection, and shall to my latest Breath. So that, notwithstanding the many heavy Circumstances, I enjoyed the still Communion with my Heart's best Friend; Nor were my many Faults, weaknesses and mistakes a hindrance thereto.

In Sept<sup>r</sup> 1758. I got a Call to the Disciple House, from my dear Anna Johanna. And the 19<sup>th</sup> arriv'd S<sup>r</sup> Mary, S<sup>r</sup> Ripley and Mat<sup>r</sup> Haley, who were most heartily receiv'd by all, and especially by our own old little Choir in Ballunderly. The 30<sup>th</sup> S<sup>r</sup> Mary Spoke the Sis<sup>rs</sup> to the Com<sup>n</sup> and in the Afternoon we partook of the same. Particular meetings were appointed in all the Plans for the Reception of the above two Sisters, which with other meetings and matters lasted to the 18<sup>th</sup> of Oct<sup>r</sup>. when we viz: B<sup>r</sup> Watson, S<sup>r</sup> Mary, Marg<sup>r</sup> Graham a Widow, myself, My dear little Niece Bessy Bennick, and Bessy Mortimer, set off from Ballunderly, and came to Belfast the same evening, where we were detain'd till the 24<sup>th</sup> when in our way down to the Vessel S<sup>r</sup> Mary got a sad fall; we got on board however the same evening. On the 29<sup>th</sup> a violent Storm arose and we were given up for lost. This was a trying Circumstance to me, after I had gone through so many trials before; But I immediately turn'd to my best and <sup>old</sup> Friend, - thought: perhaps I was the Jonas and therefore became a sinner before Him on all accounts, and in 5 minutes all were well between Him and me, and my heart rejoic'd that I should so soon see him. the W<sup>or</sup>d of the Day was. Rom. 14, 8. "Whether we live, we live unto the Lord, or whether we die, we die unto the Lord." = = = = =  
Must a ling'ring Death await us, This Text ever will stand good.  
He in Glory to translate us, Purchas'd all Things by his Blood.

The 28<sup>th</sup> we got among the sandbanks. The 29<sup>th</sup> we landed in Limer Pool safe and well. Nov<sup>r</sup> the 2<sup>nd</sup> we came to Fulneck at 4 o'Clock; After Tea S<sup>r</sup> Henderingen took care of the Children, and.



And in the evening S.<sup>r</sup> Mary sent to invite me into her house, where  
I enjoy'd many Blessings; till in Jan. 59. B. & S.<sup>r</sup> Hauptmann  
received their call to Bedford. I embraced this opportunity of going  
with them from hence to that Place, where I was received with the  
greatest love and heartiness. I soon went to London, when, after  
waiting along while, and meeting with many hindrances, however  
on the 9<sup>th</sup> of May I arrived with several more Brethren & Sisters  
to my exceeding great Joy, having that long wish'd for happiness  
of seeing my dear Pappe, Marnagen and Anna Johanna once more.  
The 10<sup>th</sup> I was brought to Ammenthoff, where I enjoy'd many inexpressible  
Blessings. The 14<sup>th</sup> I was received as Acoluth and ordained a Diaconess.  
Here I had the favour of staying till the Close thereof, a time,  
I shall never forget. July the 19<sup>th</sup> I set out from Eist with the  
respectable B. & S.<sup>r</sup> Hermichs von Rupe & Salome Grop - came to  
Gnadenthal August the 3<sup>rd</sup>. The 11<sup>th</sup> to Kleinwelthe, & the 12<sup>th</sup> to H.uth,  
where I enjoy'd a real Paratetic season, continuing in the most  
tender Communion with my eternal Friend, and in heartiest  
Fellowship with all. At the latter end of this year our dear  
Disciple House arrived to the universal great joy of all here; I  
had the Blessing of being present at the S. S.<sup>r</sup> Synod to the end;  
as also at that memorable Conclusion of the faithful Labour of those  
two eminent Witnesses the d<sup>r</sup> Disciple & Disciples of Jesus in May 1760.  
That Peace of God, which came more especially upon the  
Cong<sup>rs</sup> at that time, I also partook of in a particular manner.  
In which happy Sensation I left H.uth Sep<sup>r</sup> the 4<sup>th</sup> with B. & S.<sup>r</sup>  
Telfschig and came to Kleinwelthe; the 9<sup>th</sup> to Barby; there I  
enjoy'd many particular Blessings. The 13<sup>th</sup> we proceeded  
on our journey, and came to Eist on the 19<sup>th</sup>. From thence we  
came to London Oct. the 6<sup>th</sup>. And the 13<sup>th</sup> I came to Bedford, where  
I was received most heartily, and it went blessed for a time, but  
afterwards not so; Therefore I was sent to ~~London~~ Lamberston to  
B. & S.<sup>r</sup> Rice, to have the care of some young Women, collected  
from several Parts, there being only two Natives. As to outward  
Circumstances it was morally impossible to come thro' in a manner  
suitable to an Economy; But the principle thing in the whole  
was the want of hearts, and the true Spirit of Love and Harmony  
amongst us all. I shall not enter into further Particulars,  
they being of so painful a nature.

In Nov. 1764 I received a call from the General Synod at  
Mannborn, by the hand of my dear Bro<sup>r</sup> Johanne, to assist

S.<sup>r</sup>

Sis. Mary Cogges in Caring for the S. Sisters and Great Girls of  
the Country Cong<sup>no</sup>. I received my call with awe & real bow-  
-dness of heart. I wrote to S. Mary of that account, who answered  
me as a Priestess of God. In Dec<sup>r</sup>. I set out with a B. and his  
Daughter a great Girl, who had lived with me, for ochbrook,  
where she was to reside. We arrived there safe and well after  
a heavy journey, and I stay'd to refresh myself for several days  
among my old Acquaintance and then set out for Fulneck.  
On the 11<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup>. I came to Leeds where our late B. Thulze was  
waiting to bring me to Fulneck the next Day, and presented me  
with a very hearty Congratulatory Letter from my D<sup>r</sup> Sis. Mary.  
We arrived at Fulneck ab. Noon on the 22<sup>d</sup>. and met with a  
very hearty Reception from all my D<sup>r</sup> S. Sisters. and stay'd  
till the 16<sup>th</sup> of Jan<sup>y</sup>; when I was brought to Gomersall Economy by  
S. Mary and Ann Birkby; I felt well as soon as I entered the  
House. Early the next morning the <sup>one</sup> above mentioned Sis<sup>s</sup>  
took their leave of us. I got alone into my little room and  
kept a hearty Bona with my Best Friend, and with many  
tears devoted myself afresh to him: Put Him in mind of his  
Promise viz: That He would once bring me into an  
Asylum, where I should enjoy a real Sabbatic sea-  
-son and Bridal Intercourse with Him, preparatory  
to his taking me into His arms and Bosom.  
He shew'd me something more concerning my present call, than I  
found, some others knew, and was to remain a secret between Him  
and me, I soon found myself at Home, and that he would bring  
me safely thro'. I felt also that the Hearts of the Sis<sup>s</sup> were tenderly  
inclined towards me; so that we soon became one Heart and one  
Mind, and a Blessed Period commenced, tho' under many Difficulties.  
Not long after, a certain Sabbatic mood and most intimate inter-  
-course, between me and my Friend took Place; so that my  
Labour among the Souls, was my Delight; if peradventure  
I might happily gain some, to become lovers of this my so favourite  
Object. My journeys were long and heavy, to go to the different  
Cong<sup>no</sup>s, and I being very weakly, made me oft secretly sigh and weep be-  
fore my Friend: For it being just the depth of the winter that I come here,  
made walking in those bad roads almost impracticable; But here I must  
mention with the greatest gratitude & humility the more than  
Brotherly & Sisterly Love and Faithfulness of my good, old,  
venerable Hearts Watsons; - Happy for me they were at this time



living her in Gumerwall, and had the care of White Man also; they  
therefore most cheerfully help'd me always, when, and where they  
could with their horse &c. In Dec<sup>r</sup> following, we had the misfortune  
to loose them. For they went to Miraflo: There also they faithfully  
served me in every respect, and that same genuine love & kindness  
still subsisting between us, especially my good S<sup>r</sup> Watson's, our hearts  
became joined and united in the heart of our wounded Friend. To be  
separated no more for ever. As I have always made my travels on foot,  
My walks however have been made to me liturgic walks, and my Friend  
has so made perfect <sup>his services</sup> in my weakness, that, when I have been well-nigh  
fainting, and thought I could get no further, I have been so comforted,  
refreshed and strengthened that I have not been sensible of pain, and  
weakness, and oftentimes stood still to consider whereabout I was, and  
with surprise found myself nearer my journey's end, than I could have thought  
or imagined. My garden has been like a life Paradise, wherein I  
have admir'd, worship'd and ador'd my Dearest Heart, the great Gardener  
of the universe: and He has always attended me in my nearest employ-  
ment. He has made my Labour truly a Liturgy. And how fit and I have  
been engaged together. Some few Verses made on a Garden & known, some  
of which are here enclosed, Do more emphatically express,

1  
Josephs Garden here's intend'd my Love  
Hallowed here, here lies my Gown  
Here I sing in this cool select Parter  
With the Nymph, my Pleasing strain  
Softest Music, gently soothing, dearest  
While thy Love looks on, your feet speed gather  
From thy Corpses in peace & won  
Which she fondly doting on  
2  
And only White my Jesus wounded Body  
Of <sup>the</sup> Gardening Flowers excell  
Lilies pure and full Bloom robes Ruddy  
Gills have glorious smell  
Wounds like roses fresh and so sweetly  
On some smaller hole known  
Just like Buds that blossom  
3  
Lovely Picture Beauty most transparent  
Matchless he! My Paradise  
Now my Garden, fertile fragrant pleasant  
Now my love My tree of Life  
Sweet entail among thy blooming Treasures  
From the Thorns Pomgranates have their place  
Trust and flowers here compose  
My Belov'd my Spacious refuge  
Long I wonder'd in the Hording desert  
Left my feet my Virgin Spouse  
Got next to us seeming fair & pleasant  
Join'd in league with my Love's feet  
In Gethsemane I saw the Combat  
When he fought for Me his faithful Consort  
And on the balastry with his life  
Refused me his Dear Love Wife

6  
Hence it is that I with Bride Affection  
To these places of rest  
With my Bridegroom in his own Affection  
Not each other we admire  
Soft sensations is the pleasing Comfort  
So these Gardens as Brother travels  
Mutual Pleasure we impart  
To and from each others heart  
7  
Oft for staid and crowd'd with admiration  
How intent and fast has been  
With our diligence and warm affection  
He has never's come like this thing  
Hardly with another thought or notice  
This has been to him the very blessed  
All the sweetest Pleasures his life  
And this was here in his breast  
8  
Yes I have him acquainted his text is  
Which even Garrison's count above  
There in his gaze raised to higher graces  
He will in his Power wear  
Publick Grandeur once demonstrating  
When the Marriage shall be consummating  
Our Greens and flowers rare  
Grown with here like them appear  
9  
A Eden's Garden our love plants for me  
seem'd a place he brought me there  
Was himself old with me so delighted  
I with him. Oh happy pair  
Short live's joy I got there in a happy  
Gown comfort was the fatal forfeit  
Rudely ravish'd from my Love  
Mourn'd my husband match'd Done

My little Room has been a Cabinet of Jewels to me. Therefore I have long concluded, that if our Sav<sup>r</sup> took me home here in Yorkshire, I would die in my nest, and so slip away, as it were incognito. Since our Dr B<sup>r</sup> Backlers Visitation here, our Family has been brought again into the enjoyment of our Choir Graces with our Choir to our very great abatement.

For this Year last past, I have felt that my time was out in Gumerals; and last summer thought I should get a ball after the Synod; but could never find out any Place where I could be sent to. I once kept a hearty Band with my Friend about it, at the Conclusion of which, and summing up the whole, I said to <sup>my</sup> Friend: "Now wado it not be better thou tookist me home to thy self?" I had no room to suspect any thing of the kind, from what I felt from him at that time; But July last, As I was in the Chapel at Work, He drew near to me in an extraordinary manner, and discovered to me such an Union & oneness between Him & me, as is altogether unutterable, tho' I did attempt to express something of it in a few Verses. From this time I had often gentle hints of a Change, of something that would take place, which should entirely suit me.

In August last I got A Violent Cold, which grew worse & worse, And found my <sup>things</sup> were infected. In the Beginning of Sept. last, I felt myself strangely ill; so as I had never been before, which lasted some few nights & days; And during the whole time, I was most happily comforted with my Friends nearness, Inasmuch that I felt no illness at all, only that I was weak and drowsy. One night, unasked for, He came close to my Bedside, and stood there. My Heart saw Him, And my Soul ador'd Him! He disposed entirely in a moment, every painfull thought and Sensation, inwardly and outwardly. I felt after one Wound and another sore; But behold! they were all healed; I felt after Sin, and there was no sin: — I felt after misery and Dejection, But there was none to be found; And thus I was made sound and whole, except those pleasing Wounds of Love, which He had made long before in my enamour'd Heart, But now more deeply impress'd.

Now it was, He gave me the soft impresson of his gracious intention concerning me; while I silently worship'd before Him. On the 26<sup>th</sup> my Dr. S<sup>r</sup> Lorel called on us in her return from Duchensfield, and was quite alarm'd at my seeming bad state of Health, would not rest, But insisted on my going to Feltricks, to stay there for some time, which I did; where I assisted in seeing the Sisters for the Communion, and could not forbear to drop a word now and then, concerning something, the very obscure of my happy Situation. On the 9<sup>th</sup> I returned to Gumerals, where my Disorder increased, And my Friend ~~confirmed~~ confirmed more



Strongly what he had made already manifest to me. I was very well, seemingly, fixed and suited. But my d. S. Lord could not be reconciled to my staying at Gurness, and I must own, should more than Mothers tenderness and Affection. In these Circumstances she could not be prevailed upon to be satisfied, unless I came to Fulneck.

I therefore set out in more faith with B. Samuel Fowler and Joseph Dal No. 20<sup>th</sup> and arrived here safe, and met with a very hearty Reception. The first d. S. Heart which saluted me, was my most dear and venerable Heart Anna Johanna; I was also made happily sensible of that genuine Love and hearty affection of the Choir in general, And more especially <sup>from</sup> all those in Office; so that, that peace of God, and that Sabbath, which I never had heard any one possessing, at least so long before their Departure, accompanied me here also in the clearest manner, which began at the time above mentioned, when our Saviour manifested himself to me in such an especial manner. But here I must mention some essential things, which I forgot to mention in their proper places. viz. After all that the Lord had done for me, and I was clear and well established in it. One Day, as He & I were solacing ourselves in each others love, it came into my mind; But that oneness & union which I had possessed in Him, I was not so clear in at this time. He shew'd me I was wholly in Him, and He in me, and that we were One, as he and the Father are One. I saw myself clothed upon in Him, and possessed of all the Bridal Ornaments of the Bridegroom. I must therefore ascribe all the Honour and Glory alone to my own d. eternal Heavenly Lord and Saviour. and conclude my Narrative with the greatest truth in all the World: viz. That, Where Son hath abounded, Grace hath abounded Much more.

Our venerable and happily departed Sis Sarah Bennick, has in some measure specified, How variously her Election of Grace has manifested more ever her happy Lot. Has been cast, during her Course through this vale of tears.

Her strong Capacity, Great Gifts, and quick sensations, was illuminated by such extraordinary Grace from the H. Ghost, As evidently signified her a peculiar Person of Blessed remembrance to the Hearts of many Souls.

Yet amidst all those great Endowments, she had the Happiness, through the infinite Mercies of God, to be thoroughly convinced of her great depravity in Soul and Body, and which truly as a monument of uncommon Mercy and Grace, was preserved, in her earliest years, from the dangers and vain subtilties of her natural Inclinations, and as her own words has spoke it, she counted it the highest Dignity,

to be rank'd amongst the Chiefest of Sinners, and has with particular  
clearness express'd her mind in a few verses on this subject, in the  
Beginning of her last Sickness, as follows

Thou Feast of worms & atoms  
Depast of Sinners poor  
Who on thy Godheads Bottom  
Stands, said'st for evermore  
What signifies to Thee  
Our worst depravity  
Thou Ship of Perfection  
Thou loves immensity

Insuperable union  
Devotions fragrant Source  
Most heavenly Communion  
Dearest Interourse  
Soft gentle soothing Hum  
Effectual anointment  
Thou evermore to solace  
The Spirit & undesay, Come.

By these Verses something may be understood of that truly  
Evangelical intercourse, which our Late happy Sis. had with  
her Souls Bridgroom; She has certainly been favoured with a  
more than common union and nearness from her Friend & Lover.  
Her Soul magnified the Lord, and her Spirit daily rejoiced in God  
her Sav. whom she recommended on all Occasions, with such  
energy, as is not to be express'd in words, which bears an Indeleble  
Signature of Blessing in her Choir. During her last Sickness  
we have seen many Blessed Testimonies of this Kind, wherein  
she has plainly shown, that her very Soul was animated with  
new life whenever our Sav. or his matters was named,  
Especially with regard to the General and Individual Interourse  
which our dear Lord should have in the Choir; On Consideration  
of our dear Sis. Situation, and Circumstances in Sickness at  
Gamersall, At our desire she remov'd to end her days in the  
midst of her Choir at Fulneck, yet she retain'd the same Love  
and Concern, for her dear Gamersall Sis., to whom we  
perceiv'd on all Occasions, she had the tenderest attachment.  
And her hearts Connexion with the Fountain of Love, defus'd it  
self thro' the whole Choir. For notwithstanding her great  
weakness, she desir'd to see the Sis. Room by Room, took a  
Moore & Gamersall Reconomics, The Latter of which, she desir'd  
to see once again, when her Disolution was perceptibly hastening,  
which was a most moving scene, To Behold and feel with what power  
and grace, she gave her last Benediction to that dear Economy,  
Where she had finish'd her faithfull Labour in this Crooked Kingdom

Here



Here Below. And blest each with impresson of hands in the most maternal and feeling manner.

From this time her weakness increased more sensibly, which excited a more eager desire to see her Class, which Opportunity was most thankfully embraced to have once more a Last visit with her. And her aspect satisfied what her heart enjoyed on this Occasion to have the great privilege to declare in our midst, that the Peace of God our Saviour, was so perceptibly felt to rule and preside By one Spirit amongst us, to the Great Comfort and astonishment of her heart, which she confessed met her at the first entrance of our Doors. She prayed fervently, that this Peace and blessed Harmony in our Choir, and particularly in this her Class, might daily increase & prosper to the Honour of his holy name, and the Blessing on the whole Choir, which made a lasting impression on all present. And at the Close took a most affectionate leave, and like a Handmaid and Priestess of God, sincerely recommended her fellow Labourer Lord Seidel to the special blessing of the Lord in her future Courts & Labour in the Choir.

The 23<sup>d</sup> in the evening she complained of a pain in her side, but had a tolerable good night, and took her Breakfast in the Morning, with more relief than usual, but felt very weary.

About 9 o'clock on T. Lovell entering the Room she called her to her bedside, And with uncommon firmness of mind <sup>and</sup> said, this very day, I'm determined to go home and repeated it again with the greatest fervency, saying, I have been speaking with my Friend about it, See to it, that you have my mansion ready (the corpse Chamber) and then was still for some moments, a Sister continuing by her Beside whom she asked, what she was reading so devoutly in her Countenance? The sis<sup>r</sup> Answerd, it's the near Approaches of your Defolution, which engages my attention in an unutterable manner, She smiling made no answer and remained still for some time, and then asked, what it was that she now perceiv'd come with a little noise from her Breast and it is Death, answerd by the Sister I believe it is, when she hastily reply'd, Pray then call Lovell. At whose entrance into the Room, she fixt her eyes upon her and said, Dont look so anxious. This Rattling in my Breast is no pain to me, I am quite easy and shall very soon be with him, in whose heart centers all my wishes.

She retains a strong presence of Mind, and during her whole sickness to her last Moments, was carried on with remarkable serenity and ease, tracing many intimations from some Months past of her gracious Lords intentions with her  
By this sickness; And that no pains should interrupt that

lovely Communion that her Soul enjoy'd with its Beloved Bridegroom  
Which was truly verify'd to the end.

About an Hour before she departed it was perceiv'd her  
Lips moved very quick, 'believing she call'd some one by name'.  
On being ask'd if it was so, she reply'd 'As possibly; But I  
was conversing with my Friend and Lover: Continuing in this  
way about 3 quarters of an hour, And then mount'd very much  
to 'speak'. Her Stammering Tongue could no more be understood  
only Christ & cry 'A few moments would now end the Period  
of her time', upon which Mr. Lovel laid her hand upon her head  
and she look'd once more up, And then clos'd her eyes to sleep  
in the Arms of her everlasting Bridegroom — during  
the Blessing of her Choir, with a most powerfull feeling of  
Grace, from the sensible near presence of our dearest Lord,  
Which will never be forgotten by those, who had the favour  
to be present, at this important Event —

1770 Her Corps had a most lovely Aspect. — She has spent in this  
Dying Life 57 Years, 7 Months, and some Days —