

St. Mary Bates dictated the following Apr 8th 1812

Thy blood, thy blood the deed hath wrought &c
I was born June 26th 1744 in Great Horton, in the parish
of Bradford. My father being one of the first 16th there.
He was called home to our Saviour when I was only 2 yrs
old, and my Mother was left with five children of whom
I was the youngest. I can remember when very young being
sent to the Childrens meetings, and liked them very much
and hearing of our Saviours love to children, made an
impression on my heart, and that verse: Dearest child
hark and see, what a Saviour now have we, proved a sac-
ring to me. But yet I spent the years of my youth
without knowing or experiencing much, untill I was
about 18 years. I had a great desire to live in a Congⁿ but
as I was the only daughter, I could not leave my mother.
It was at that time the custom, that those who lived
in the Country might not have the privilege to be
received into the Congⁿ and to partake of the H^l Comm. On this
account I felt very unhappy, as it appeared to me that I
could neither enjoy the Congⁿ nor the World. I now fully
experienced the truth of that text. The carnal mind is
enmity with God. I felt my sinful inclinations, and the
desire to enjoy the World, so strong, that I sometimes
thought, I did not care what became of me, I said once in
my grief, I will never be in the Congⁿ yet my heart condemn
me. One night when I had fully determined to drop all
connection with the W^{ld} people. I read a hurt in my

neck, in fetching water from a well, I suffered great pain,
and was brought into a very weak state of health. As soon
as I was able I went to Dulnee, and called to see St. Leger
who was then the Laboureur, she looked earnestly at me
and asked what I thought, for if the hurt had turned
inwardly, I might have died in a moment, this was
like a thunderbolt to my soul. I went to the preaching
but could hear nothing for misery, feeling that I was not
fit to die. I returned home but had no rest, reflecting
on my unhappy state, my earnest prayer and desire
was now that our Saviour would pardon all my sins.
At that time there much said in the meetings,
that ^{if we had any} clearness of our sinfulness, we should see our Saviour
in his crucified form, this brought me into self working
and I thought that I never could be saved unless I had
that particular manifestation in which I heard it described.
However one morning when I awoke, it was as if our
Saviour said to me, I know the thoughts which I think
towards thee, thoughts of peace? that word peace.
comforted my heart, and has always been something
to me thro' my future course. This was in my 25th
year, I now felt a great desire to be rec. into the Eng.
that favor was granted me April 12th 1779. and the
peace of God which I felt on that occasion, I shall
never forget. I now spent my time happily and
enjoyed the meetings, when I awoke in the morning
it was my first pleasing thought. I shall hear of
our Saviour to day. I wished much to partake of

the H. Comⁿ. but it was long before that favour was granted. A conversation previous to it, with the late Mr. Brancker, proved a great blessing to me. He asked if I had felt a clearness that our Saviour had pardoned all my sins, to which I answered as mentioned before, upon he spoke very encouraging words to me, and said that our Saviours ways were different with every poor sinner.

Dec^r 8th 1776 I had the favour to partake for the first time of the H. Comⁿ. In 1779 I removed with my Mother to Washhouse, where I spent 3 years very comfortably, tho' I had many ~~school~~ schools for my own heart. But our Saviour helped me and proved my faithful friend.

After the happy departure of my dear Mother whom I nursed to my end, I went to live at Fleckmondaye to care for my 13^r Children, where I staid until June 28th 1783. when I came to the Str house here.

I entered this house with my whole heart, according to my wished for desire, and no trials whatsoever have made me wish to leave it. My own temper and work made it sometimes trying, but little uneasinesses, were soon settled again, and I can truly say that my living in this house has proved a Blessing to me, where I have learned to know more of myself and of our Saviours leading.

Had I not thou O Lamb of God once bleeding
Were not thy blood for me a sinner pleading
Where should I poorest among all the needy
Find succour ready—

In 1799 my Niece Rachel Oats, with whom I had
lived 16 years in the Mr house, was married to Mr
Jackson and went to Jamaica, and two months after
my ^{old} Mr. who had been as a father to me, departed happily.
These circumstances were great trials to me, and made
me look earnestly to our Saviour, for His help even
in externals, and He has never put me to shame.
I now commend all my friends and relations to
the Lord, may He bless them with spiritual &
temporal blessings and may He help & support
me thro this vale of tears till I shall have the
favour to see Him face to face.