

Annals of the Church

no 101

that the counsel & Vacation given me by my parents
I became in my infancy desirous to become acquainted
with our Saviour. I took in to the care of the S^r
about my 6 year frequenting the school kept by
a ^{female} S^r till being one day in close conversation
wth the Child^{ren} made mention of our S^r side hole
which drew a particular attention in me as if I had
never heard of that place ^{before} therefore could not
rest till I had made inquiry about it of one of my
S^{ist} who informed me it was the place which the
Saviour ^{gave} when our S^r shed his blood for the
remission of sins. at w^{ch} time he expired on the cross that
all poor sinners might be saved ~~from their sins~~ this
made a real concern upon my mind & a secret desire to
become acquainted with our S^r that I might there know
this place in his side & be also happy & a good Child, but
I knew not how to accomplish my intentions, but resolved to
learn a deal of verses & thereby sing of our S^r & the side
hole with a constancy till I came to the knowledge of it,
making my mind known to the S^{ist} who kept the school
who told me ~~several others~~ ^{us children} that this would not bring
us acquainted with our S^r, this affect me with much
grief & cause many tears to flow. she also said that if
we desired to become our S^r S^r we must be very good ~~and~~
~~out of love & obedience to him & then he will pray to him to bless~~
us poor Child^{ren} & then he would be near to our hearts & make us
happy thro' the merit of those wounds which we are desirous
to become acquainted with. I listened attentively to all
this & went on for 4 or five years with a Child^{like} longing
in my heart to become our Saviour & about this ^{year} I was took

into a Ship amongst the rest of the Nation which
was of real consequence to me, for by the coming
thence I plainly perceive I had not yet attained many
valuable knowledge in my heart for which I was continually
longing after, in the 13 year I was lockt into the g
of Amos by Capt. S. I. Anna Phanna this was acual
helping & caus'd a particular living in the mind not
sent till the dearest Saviour manifest him self to
my ^{own} weak heart that thereby might be free of all my
infirmities thro his precious blood, this inward long-
ing continued till the 15 year in which I felt a
particular change & an ~~ready~~ ^{readiness} ~~him~~ in my self
which caus'd me many unduly hours & day which
with many Tears ~~for~~ ^{for} ~~remoued~~ ^{remoued} being over-
powered with the depravity of my Nature I abstracted
as much as possible from ~~the~~ fellowship of any firm
for in this initial Moments I knew not which way to
take, but was ^{not} ~~not~~ ^{gladly} ~~gladly~~ ^{gladly} a given up all rather than feel
the perplexities I labored under in this extremity of
heart & mind took into the field & prostrated before
my Lord & maker desire him to direct me what course
he'd have me take & in a few moments pause I felt my
heart again with certain intimations impress'd therein
for me to return to my former good intention & become
entirely out & Saviour, from this time my great perplexities
left me & I felt some comfort in my mind, & plainly perceive
the dangerous paths I had been pursuing which caus'd me
many ~~times~~ ^{times} this unfaithfull course caus'd me many Tears
but I cheerfully return'd unto my Ship & convers'd with the
Governor about my heart situation & sought forgiveness

In about half, all the opportunities I enjoyed was now finished
 being so engaging, I was to give a great deal of
 my self down & some grace to comfort me towards the
 winter of my 18th had no grace to be received into the com-
 munion, and expected for I at this time felt my insufficiency which
 excited all my hopes & expectations of enjoying such a grace
 Jan 12. I was received into the little virgin's choir, this felt my
 heart & lips with blessing tears & bowed me in the very dust for
 some time under the present feeling of my wretched nature, which
 felt no other holy spirit & abode in my heart plainly, let me see
 that I was not according to the S^c & mind, yet felt a refreshing com-
 fort from his precious promises, & began to feel drops of blood
 in the first hour, but my circumstances not permitting this
 according to my mind this cause me many tears, but I enjoy
 the opportunities with real grace & blessing, & in my 18th year
 I had leave to live in the oeconomic at Farnesfield, this was
 a blessed school for my poor heart were in the fellow ship
 with the S^c I learnt to understand my heads connec-
 tions with my dear & saviour & how in some small measure
^{= (conjunction)}
~~connected~~ the persons from the S^c & holy spirit, concerning the
 injury must of my S^c & Lord's corpse & blood, which I felt my
 poor heart to hang on after but my shame kept me from
 all expectation, of this kind, but in November following
 enjoy this inexpressible grace of the sacramental body & blood
 of my gracious Lord, what I enjoy here humble me in the very
 dust, in about 6 months after I remove into the choir boy
 & house & work in company with the great girls, which was
 so small blessing for my heart, this was a particular portion
 to me in many cases of the faithful labour of the holy spirit
 and many occurrences see & feel how spirit was in the true
 knowledge of the living spirit, tho' I could readily feel what has
 not done right yet that brought me not to feel my self a sinner
 over my wretched nature, but at once to be forgotten by me

that remarkable choir communion Mar: 24 the 1st holy day
let me see the great difference in sacrament & choir & how
which was with particular benedictions impressed into my
heart, at the participations of the holy corpus here I got
an insight I never had before, of what communion I stood
with my dearest Saviour, at the single 1st & 2nd Masses
I was received into the single 1st Choir, this was a particular
blessing to my heart, my induction into this choir had
such an impression on me that although determination
wholly seized me to covenant with my Saviour to live & abide
Eternally his from this very day, what I felt & enjoyed in the opportunity
of his special day of grace & blessing will never be forgotten by me
as also the various alterations & transposition from my 1st Choir &
2nd Class companions had no small effect on me for ^{for blessing} dear acquaintances
were commended, & I became exceeding anxious in my mind
concerning the depravity of my hidden nature believing I was
not as a single 1st ought to be, but thro' the grace & blessing
enjoyed ^{with the others} & also the blessed Labour in my choir
& thus I became more acquainted how to bear & bring
each Circumstance of my situation before the Heart of my
Dearest Bridegroom, who by his bloody grace overheard
& helped me on from day to day so that I became cheerful
& quite happy in my ~~Heart~~ mind & thankful for that
blessed Election which invited & invited me in his virgin
choir, after some Months enjoyment of a blessed inter-
course of Grace & spiritual Leading by my heart's best friend
I was attacked with weakly Symptoms of a disorder of an oppress-
ive friend, which violently affected me & brought a thousand
accusations in my mind, which some what retarded
my happy & cheerful course, in this serious & reflective time
I spent some Months & became exceedingly thoughtful believing
that my dearest Saviour took this time to affect me with this bodily
disorder, to keep me more circumpectly by my heart, towards the
Fatherland of Heaven. On Dec: 60 took into the sick room being not able to