

The life of <sup>our late</sup> S. Sister Mary Tattersell  
as wrote by herself.

I was born at Hingcroft near Hallifax May  
the 29<sup>th</sup> 1756, <sup>and</sup> baptised in the Church of England.  
In my when very young I remember with  
gratitude to my dear Saviour to have had a  
very tender impression of his dying love in  
my heart, & the Childrens meetings kept at  
that time by the Brethren at Stonery near  
Hallifax, were of great blessing to me.  
In my 7<sup>th</sup> year it pleased our Saviour to take  
home to himself my dear Mother, whose loss  
I had much reason to regret on many accounts,  
as she made it her chief study to watch over  
me for my welfare, both as to Soul and Body.  
In about a year after my Father married again,  
by the Consent of the Brethren, which proved  
a great change for me, being much more cap-  
able of many things, that I had hitherto been kept  
from. Tho' at first I did not feel that my heart  
which then did not know was drawn aside  
from that real simplicity I had enjoyed in  
my dear Saviour, yet very soon <sup>by means of some particular</sup> ~~these~~ <sup>circumstances</sup>  
I gradually began to enter  
into things that suited my <sup>nature</sup> ~~disposition~~

and consequently lost for a time my first  
impression. I cannot pass over a period of my  
life without taking notice of our Saviors faithful  
ness towards me this poor Child, from my ear-  
liest Infancy, & with what unwearied patience  
he has sought me <sup>to keep</sup> his ~~own~~ wandering sheep  
to keep with his Fold. In my 12<sup>th</sup> year having  
heard repeated admonitions from my Father not  
to play with those children that he knew would  
be of no benefit to me / as he was very much  
concerned that I should prosper for the Lord,  
but my obstinate heart <sup>rejected</sup> ~~refused~~ all his  
advice, & I was at that time determined  
to pursue my own way, till at length our  
Savior by means of a dream brought <sup>me</sup> to a  
recollection, & on reflecting very solidly on  
~~the~~ the course I was then pursuing, caused  
me to turn to him in prayer, promising  
him that I would be his entire property.  
Some weeks after, when sitting alone in a room  
at my work, our Savior particularly manifested  
himself to me as on the Cross ~~and~~ bleeding &  
dying for my sins which caused me to shed  
many tears at his thro' pierced side. This I  
could not at that time comprehend, but then



How often have I wish'd since ~~that time~~ <sup>again which</sup> I ~~had~~ <sup>those</sup> happy conversations, I had there. I ~~but~~ <sup>must</sup> have found, that I have had to traverse this vale of wee & tears by faith, relying on my dear Savior, who out of love to my soul purchas'd it at no less a price than his precious blood, & in whom I have that confidence, that he will lead me safely through my pilgrimage here below, & in his own good time change my faith into sight, to live in his presence for ever. — In the year 1769 I had the favor to be received among the great Girls in the ~~S<sup>m</sup> society~~ <sup>at</sup> ~~that~~ <sup>about</sup> week, we were 18 in number, and the very impressive discourse kept by B<sup>r</sup> Worthington made a deep impression upon my poor heart, so that from ~~that~~ <sup>that</sup> time it became clear to me <sup>that</sup> here my lot ~~is~~ <sup>was</sup> cast to follow my dear Sav<sup>r</sup> among this people, and on the 6<sup>th</sup> of May the same year, I obtained leave to live in the S<sup>m</sup> society at Littlemore, for which I was very thankful, and altho I found it very difficult to come thro in my outward circumstances, & certainly could not, had done, had not my Grandmother assisted me, yet I was determin'd to <sup>venture every thing</sup> ~~venture every thing~~

Having a deep, & clear conviction in my heart  
that this was the path my Sav<sup>r</sup> appointed  
me to walk in, <sup>although at times</sup> owing to my cir-  
cumstances, <sup>& pressing concerns</sup> very dark clouds <sup>increased the darkness of</sup> ~~darkness~~ <sup>darkness</sup>  
~~interposed~~ <sup>at times</sup> for having lost that simplicity, some-  
times in the Lord, I began to reason about his  
assistance, & if there was a possibility <sup>that</sup> ~~that~~ <sup>that</sup> I could  
in any measure, help me thro'; thus I went on  
for some time, keeping things to myself, which  
I should have communicated to those who  
from experience, could have directed me  
to the source of help, ~~I had met at this~~  
~~time about myself~~ which proved very  
detrimental to me, The meetings at this time  
proved a great blessing to my heart, as they  
always united my case in such a manner  
that I was led to think they were particularly  
kept to me, In 1774 I removed to the 1st House  
in Chulneck, & the year following <sup>was</sup> ~~see~~ into the  
S. M. Choir, I now renewed my covenant with  
my Sav<sup>r</sup>, & earnestly prayed that I might  
become more & more devoted to him ~~in~~  
~~this choir~~, than I had been in my Girls  
years, but being rather of a legal turn of mind  
I had to struggle with myself, not liking



to acknowledge to our <sup>Lord</sup>, or to those to whom  
I should have placed confidence in, that  
I was to blame in <sup>such</sup> ~~many~~ things, <sup>which</sup> ~~that~~ the clear  
conviction in my heart told me <sup>were</sup> not  
according to the <sup>mind</sup> of my dear Lord,  
however I pray'd that I might become more  
open hearted, which in the sequel was  
granted, me & being once ~~abroad~~ speaking  
with <sup>my church</sup> ~~near the~~ <sup>Calvary</sup> Chapel, she said, "Your  
self righteousness will prove your ruin"  
These words made a deep impression upon me  
and caused me to examine myself more  
minutely, than I had ever <sup>done</sup> before <sup>another</sup> <sup>ask</sup> <sup>my</sup> <sup>advice</sup>, &  
<sup>ask, whether</sup> I could surrender both soul & body to  
our dear Savior in the Congregation, being  
conscious that I had gone on <sup>in</sup> a very super-  
ficial manner thus far, but from this  
time I date <sup>the</sup> my surrender of my heart to  
my best friend; being determined I'd all  
difficulties to cleave to, & live alone for him.  
March 31<sup>st</sup> 1777 I had the grace & favor  
to be received into the Cong<sup>n</sup>, this was a  
day of peculiar blessing to me, ~~leaving~~  
and I ~~now~~ <sup>anew</sup> devoted myself to our <sup>Lord</sup>.  
May 2<sup>d</sup> 1780 I spent for the first time

of the Lords Body & Blood in the H. Comm<sup>ty</sup> with  
the Cong<sup>g</sup>, which has proved ever blessed, &  
memorable to my poor heart.

As now the sisters are to add the remainder also what refers to her last  
hours -