

Feb 13/73

The Life of the Single Sist^r Sarah Thewd who went home to
Our Saviour Aug 8 1772 of which she has dictated the following

I was born at Bristol Jan 4 1745 and Baptiz'd in the Church
of England By means of the B^rs Preaching in my Fathers Shop
I had the Opportunity of hearing the Gospel from my Earliest
Infancy and got a particular love and esteem for the Child^{ren}
Meetings which I frequented

In July 1762 I was at Fulneck, at a Baptism kept by the
Late B^r Lennick, the Hall being very much crowded I
could not see the B^r but was so affected by the Discourse
that I could not forbear weeping all the time Soon after I had
the favour to be at the Child^{ren} Cong^{regation} Day at Fulneck, and
being with others of the Country Child^{ren} as Spectator in the Gallery
During the Prostration The Sight together with the feeling of
our Saviour's mercy overcame me in such a Manner as I am not
able to describe, The next time I had the grace to be at
The Prostration with the Child^{ren} in the Hall which was a
peculiar Blessed day to me wherein our Sav^{our} Manifested
Himself to me assuring me that he had forgiven me every thing
my heart was thereby so melted that my eyes overflowed
with many gratefull tears before Him thro' the inexpressible
feeling of His Love and grace

In 1763 I had the small Pox, and was thereby brought very
weak, I Long'd very much to go to our Sav^{our} and was pleas'd
with nothing but hearing Verses Concerning that Subject which
my Eldest B^r who was also Sick together with my Sist^r
very agreeably entertained me with Singing, But as this was not
the time for my happy Departure I in Pursuit of time for
recover'd again Thus far Our Late Sist^r

It was perceptible in This Our Sist^r from Her Infancy that Our Sav^r kept His Hand over Her as His Own peculiar Property, as She could enjoy Satisfaction in nothing but the feeling Sense of His nearness On which account Her natural anxious and ~~beferve~~ turn made her time somewhat heavy to Her till she Obtained a settled Peace and Satisfaction in Our Sav^r Thro' the alacrity of His merits She Earnestly desired the Fellowship of the Sist^{rs} and was rejoiced when any came to see Her Or when She had the Opportunity of seeing them at Tallaack, Where the meetings & classes of the Sist^{rs} was a great refreshment to Her

May 4 1760 She was reced into the Sist^{rs} Choir to a real Blessing for Her heart and Aug 9 following She Obtained leave to move into the Choir House at Tallaack to Her great Joy Her course was in general very still but it was Evident that Our Sav^r led her more into the true knowledge of Her own Poverty Whereby Her Heart became more attach'd to His Dr Person as Her only Object She had the grace to Love and be belov'd by Her Sist^{rs} as a true poor Sinner

Sept^r 29 1760 She was recd into the Congⁿ Soon after which time Her long and tedious Illness began by a fit of the Ague Which She scarcely recover'd before by means of a fall She hurt Her Hand Which caus'd her great Pain all possible means were us'd but to little purpose as Her Disorder settled in it and became a perpetual wound which in time render'd it useless

April 19 1765 She had the grace to be a Participant

The H^c Comⁿ to Her inexpressible Joy and Consolation
Her Sickly Habit of Body caus'd Her many Painfull Sensations
~~about~~ Wherin our Sav^r alone cou'd Comfort Her and it was
amazing to see how patiently she bore it and how willing
she was beyond her ability to help Her self by working at
Her Needle During Her abode in the Sickroom of which
she became an inhabitant in 1769 this prov'd a real Schooling
time to Her heart Wherin she became more thoroughly acquainted
with Her self as a poor sinner that wanted real Grace and
Comfort from Our Sav^r Who from time to time Supported
her thro' His Mercies

About 6 weeks before Her removal from us she express'd
a Desire to visit Her Parents, Her desire was granted
in Order by Change of Air and Exercise of the Journey
to refresh Her and upon Her return it seem'd as if
it had been of Service to Her But it ^{did} not hold long
before she grew worse Upon ^{which} Considering herself as a Burdensome
Person to the Choir and likely to remain so much Longer she
came to a Resolution to move to Her Parents in Consequence
of this she remov'd Oct^r 16 1772 The Choir who hitherto
had Supported Her Continuing their Bounty towards Her in
the same Manner as when Present she spent Her time with
Her Parents happily and was able to ride to Gomersall Nov 29
to the H^c Comⁿ which was a great refreshment to Her But
from that time ^{she} could go out no more by reason of great
Weakness In Jan^y 1773 Her Disorder ^{became} Her more Violent
Then ever in Her Back as well as Hand ~~out~~ of which several
Bones were taken this caus'd Her many Sleepless Nights wherein
she look'd out with Longing for Her release When sometimes
she grew a little Impatient and thereby thought she had grow'd

Her Mother she could not rest till she was reconciled again
Which caused many tender Emotions on both Sides
Her greatest Pleasure was to hear of or see any of the Sisters
who visited her frequently which always proved a great refreshment
to her. But particularly The W^m Comⁿ which she enjoyed several
times on her sick Bed, proved a real Comfort and Consolation
to her; at which times a peculiar feeling of our Sav^r's near-
ness was perceptible to all Present,
June 14 She got a violent Cough with Spitting & Purging,
this weakened her much, Her Heart rejoiced to think our
Sav^r would soon take her, and on the Sunday following, she
desired her Parents & Sister to ~~be present~~ ^{be with her} which they
did; saying Perhaps by next Sunday I shall be with our Sav^r
soon after her Choir Labours visited her again for the last
time and spoke thoroughly with her concerning many things
to her great Satisfaction, after which she spent her time in
a sinnerslike Happy converse with our Sav^r till Aug 2

She altered very much and finding herself very weak rejoiced
in Hopes that all her Sorrows would shortly have an end
Which accordingly happened on the 5th inst, when about 4 o'clock
in the Morning it was evident that her Dissolution was near
Her speech failing she could not say much, but expressed I want
and being asked, is it our Sav^r you want, she replied
O yes that is the thing, the chief thing then all will be
made good; These were her last words after which
she lay very still till 8 o'clock when she fell softly
and happily asleep, during a sweet Liturgy
in the 33 year of her Age