

The course of Life of the S^t Ely Thornton who went happily to our Sav. Feb^r 18. 1770
 Yorkshire

I was born in the parish of Archelt, octob^r 12. 1727 bapt^d in the Church of England, my father departed out of Time when I was four years old; my mother became much concern'd for her own Salvation & also that of her children, & when M^r Ingham & M^r Dalarnott preach'd in those parts where we liv'd, my mother went constantly to hear them & would gladly ^{have} had me ~~have~~ gone along with her, but contrary to the conviction of my own heart I restrain'd my self, & often felt my self severely condemn'd for so doing. - a ~~book~~ ^{book} on 14 year my mother departed this life in full testimony of our Sav^rs death & sufferings, this I'll had no immediate effect upon me; but one day some little Time after as I was going to the well for water, I was struck in my Mind all at once; how often I had resist'd my dear mothers importuning me to go with her ⁱⁿ to the meetings & now my lost & wretched condition I had no one to advise with or speak the least sentiment of my Hearts situation to; in this miserable condition of my Mind, I set me down by the well like one distracted, till my sister came to seek me; she was much frighten'd, thought I had lost my senses, ask'd what's the matter, I told her I was much concern'd about my Souls Salvation & that I could not bear it any longer, she told me I was much too young to be concern'd on any such Occasion, but I yet found no rest ~~but~~ went the same day to speak with B^r Ockertousen who liv'd at murfield; after some Questions relative to my concern'd situation & if I frequent'd the preaching of the ~~from~~ to which such questions I answer'd that I had not yet been but would be glad to go if my sister whom I lov'd with would give me leave; B^r Ockertousen spoke very comfortable and encouraging to me & said ^{he} would come to see me & speak with my sister on that occasion which he also did, & my sister let me go for a few Times to the preaching, but fearing I should come into a further connection which she did not like, therefore propos'd ^{my going to} service ~~that~~ that I might be otherways engag'd then spend my Time in running to the meetings, B^r Ockertousen hearing my sisters intentions with me sent for me, & as he was going from home I gave ~~him~~ ^{him} my promise that I would not be persuaded by my sister, but in a few days I broke my promise & went to service, which proved on most occasions very agreeable to me, but this breach of promise condemn'd me night & day & had no rest till,

Tell I went to Mr. Bartholomew to confess my great sins & to confess, he
as a tender father forgave & advised to better conduct for the future, & promised
to help me to a place more suitable & proper for me, & about my 17 years
I went to live with a single woman in Nightown, but the want of peace &
knowledge of how to do in my heart which was not inclined to live to him
& the hankering after the world occupied me many restless nights & days
for near a twelvemonth, tho I could perceive my dear Saviour had affectionate
hand upon me till the reproaches of my heart would open to them, then
I went on in this wavering yet ^{obedient} manner, & when at the preaching
heard the story that ^{our dear} Saviour had been ^{crucified} simply that our dear
Saviour had made atonement for his sins, he would be as happy from
that moment as if he was 100 years, this made such an impression on me
that I could scarcely stand or go, & I could not live many minutes
without my Saviour, I manifested this self to me, in this condition I started into
a new way, in order to prevent sinning & desiring to deliver soul & body
intirely up to him, but was as if he had bodily present with me, & gave
me all my sins, this was such a day of grace & salvation unto me as
made me ^{rich} ⁱⁿ attend persons, so I never felt well my life before, I
began to sing that fine dear round tune wide for me, which was
repeatedly continued till I reached my home, & my heart was full, with bows &
shouts, some time after I removed where at the Economies of Bucklehorn &
had now & then some little fears about my coming, ^{but} ^{now} I became cheerful
& thankful for my happy happy lot of grace, then to my grief was removed
to the Town Economies, soon became at home & satisfied, ^{but} ^{as} all the while
became renewed, but when I came into ^{new} thoughts over my backwardness
of the Holy Ghost entered into a deep schooling by showing me the great depravity
of my heart, the sight of which occupied me to think I surely was not so good
nor so fit to be ^{renewed} feeling in grief & this lay in me brought me into great
distraction in my mind for 3 or 4 months, but on Jan 1st 1750 I had the
unpeakable grace to be received into the congregation this word unabiding
consolation to my heart, & in the same year I had the unexpected favour to
become a participant of His Holy Spirit & blood by my great joy & deep abasement
of the dear Holy Ghost in defatigable labour in my heart was to bring me to be
a sinner about my own depravity, I got more confident & reliance on my
Saviour, & this more than my own, but alas I was very timorous & my own
self rightness ⁱⁿ ^{the} ^{very} ^{life} ^{unto} ^{me},
in my removal to the Town Economies I became very silly, which our
my outward coming thro to prove a little heavy, but the Sisters loved it

behaviour to me I shall never more forget, especially Aunt Drabby who was
particularly tender to me during my whole stay at the land & home of
the Economies at that time
In the year 52 I was in the number of those sisters that had the grace
to be first inhabitants of the Christian home at Bucklehorn, in which I place
I had not always spent my time to the mutual blessing of my dear Saviour &
I believe I have loved & worth with, my interest in my soul took more
at these faults than my own, about which it was difficult for me to be
a sinner ^{and} not understanding this part of my own, that my sister
knew not of the dear Holy Ghost, I laboured incessantly on my Saviour to become
a sanctified & holy body, thro a personal connection with my dear Saviour
the enjoyment of this special grace made all my other opportunities a
daily labour to my heart & which I was engaged in my dear Saviour
will be all ^{the} ^{grace} ^{of} ^{the} ^{Holy} ^{Ghost} ⁱⁿ ^{my} ^{heart} ^{by} ^{me} ^{with} ^{that} ^{happy} ^{grace}
in the year 54 I removed to serve the children in the Economies, in
which place I had many things to do, & this together with my high
disposition not liking to have my great deficiencies exposed, made myself
gather some indignities, but as I knew more peace abounded in my
self at my Saviour's feet & submitted to be his poor & needy one, I became more
thankful & happy in my heart,
in the year 56 I had the grace to come amongst the order of the Economies, it was
a real means to let me see more of my heart, that nothing but a ready power best
could come into the presence, my great simplicity, small acquaintance with me
many times down to my Saviour's feet, & the inability I felt in serving off the
children, ⁱⁿ ^{the} ^{house} ^{of} ^{the} ^{Economies} ^{at} ^{that} ^{time} ⁱⁿ ^{my} ^{heart} ^{by} ^{me} ^{with} ^{that} ^{happy} ^{grace}
more joyful & cheerful in those months, thus, & her own ⁱⁿ ^{the} ^{house} ^{of} ^{the} ^{Economies} ^{at} ^{that} ^{time} ⁱⁿ ^{my} ^{heart} ^{by} ^{me} ^{with} ^{that} ^{happy} ^{grace}
about the year 58 our happy departed Saviour began her illness with a bad cough
& pain in all her limbs, all possible means & medicines was used to very little effect
she got a secret impression that this illness would be the means of her dissolution
but I never mention it, tho I should not be so she repeated,
Her disorder increasing accompanied with violent pains in the midst of
which she with great cheerfulness repeated Her eager longing to be with our
dear Saviour, Her great bodily suffering she bore with such patience that her
conversation & resignation was a blessed dispensation to all around her, &
I said indeed one cannot tell what our Saviour is to a poor needy sinner, till one
has done with every thing around one, saying I have now no leave to look
either to the right hand or to the left, & I have but a few moments to wait
I ^{the} ^{only} ^{object} ^{which} ^I ^{am} ^{to} ^{be} ^{removing} ^{from} ^{my} ^{heart} ^{by} ^{me} ^{with} ^{that} ^{happy} ^{grace}

more fully Occupied withall. The Sincerity of Her great poverty the Expressions
in a particular manner to Her Labour at speaking before the Holy Communion
& that our dear "Lao" had lead Her to the Communion in a most Loving & tender
manner & often said He is Certainly more, ye much more than a Saviour to my soul
for He Loves ^{me} beyond Repression. I indeed I would not be without those pains
& sickness for ever so much, Oh the Heavenly communion which this poor
belly now enjoys with Christ my Lord. none can conceive what it is to have
such a visible ~~communion~~ ^{with a Saviour} till they come into such a situation as I am
present in, He is already come & call me by my name & when nothing inter-
I see Him bodily present by my bed, then all wants & pains vanish at once
& I can feel as if I was already gone, — therefore this would not do for
you my Sisters, that has the dear Children ^{for} to look after;
the last time she partook of the Holy Sacrament, she felt refreshment in a
particular blessed manner; & said ah my self righteousness ah what a
despicable figure it now appears in to me, this poor Sinner;
Her Love to the Children mov'd a desire to see them took a most tender leave
of such & Express'd Her sincere wish for their prosperity, recommended them
to the Childrens friends & with a tender mother wish to meet them all with
our dear Lao", this affecting sight caus'd such a tender emotion on both sides
as nothing but those Tears ^{could} ~~over~~ Express
a few days before Her departure Her whole Heart & mind was so taken up
with our dear Lao" that Her Communion & words was accompanied with
such a Sinnerlike Joyful Repetition of soon seeing Him face to face that Her
very soul was delighted with imaginations, that the whole place
could not but have the sound of Music ^{great} for now He was come, & on the
morning of the 10th she in a rapture said ah He is come to fetch me for
you well my Sisters fare you well for now I go — This was the last
words she spoke, & about nine a Clock Her happy soul took flight
into Her Bridegrooms arms during the blessing of Her Choir
in the 42 year of Her age —