

THE DIARY OF AMELIA BINFIELD RYDER

This diary was copied by Isabella Bond Moyse (nee Ryder) into the reminiscences of Joseph Ryder.

"This diary of our dear sister Amelia's has been in my possession for some years, and as most of it was written in pencil and almost illegible, I have taken the liberty of transcribing it into our beloved fathers book.
LB Moyse, 19.11.1912."

North Adelaide 21 Oct. 1865 . (Aged 21-LGR)

I do not intend to keep a diary, but I have thought I should like to write down some of my thoughts and some of the Lord's dealings with me, so that if I should be spared to live for a few years I shall be enabled to see how the Lord has led me on since I first began to love Him. I may as well note that it was on the 17th August last that in Archer St. Chapel, (while hearing the Rev Mr Taylor of California preach from the words "But if we walk in the light, even as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another and the blood of Jesus Christ His son cleanseth us from all sin"), that I felt that His blood cleanseth me from all sin. and I am now endeavouring by the grace of God to walk in the light as He is in the light.

Blessed Jesus thou hast been very precious to me. Be with me in all my undertakings and may I do all to the glory of God.

On Mon the 29th of October, I am going to Miss Hillier's as assistant teacher in her school. I hope while I am there, I shall be able to have a few minutes in the middle of the day to lift up my heart to God in prayer for grace and strength to overcome all the fiery darts of the enemy. I derive much peace from that text "the Lord shall preserve thee from all evil. He shall preserve thy soul."

I hope I shall sometimes have opportunities of writing in my book. Precious Jesus go with me and wherever I am, may I feel assured that by faith I am saved from all sin.

Franklin St. Nov 5th.

I have been here now 2 weeks and I think I shall be very comfortable. I can get out to chapel a great deal more than I expected. I have been to Pirie St Chapel this morning. Heard Mr. Burgess preach the same sermon that I heard him preach at Native Valley some time ago, but it was very good. Went to Mr. Maugham's Sunday school next door in the afternoon & taught a class. Went to Nth Adelaide in the evening Rev Mr Allen preached. I like him very much, and tonight I dedicated myself, my life, my all to God anew, while partaking of the Lord's supper. "high heaven that heard that solemn vow, that vow renewed shall daily hear" for I am resolved to live for God alone. Oh that He would make me of some little use. I want to do something for Him who gave His life for me. I really must try to write in my book more for I don't want to forget it or give it up.

2nd Jan 1866.

"What shall I render to the Lord for all His bebefit's to me?" He has brought me by His grace to see the beginning of another year. I wonder if I shall live to see

its close. On Sunday night while attending the watchnight service at Pirie St I felt much blessed. I then dedicated myself afresh to God and His cause. Oh that He would make me useful. I have been to the hospital today to see a poor girl who is in a decline and I feel not long for this world. She begged me to come and see her again. I wonder if I can read to her, or do her any good. I shall certainly try.

I left Miss Hillier last Saturday week. I don't know I am sure, what the Lord is going to do with me, but my prayer is that He would enable me to some little towards saving the souls of those who are perishing around me.

Sun. Jan7 '66

The first sabbath of the year 1866 is almost gone, but what a happy day it has been to me. This afternoon at 1 o'clock, I went to the hospital to see Mary, I am glad to say that she is getting better. It made my heart ache to see so many poor creatures about looking so ill and I longed to tell them about our saviour's love for them, but I am so shy in making a beginning. Lord, make me more bold to take up and firm to sustain the consecrated cross. Afterwards I went to the Covenant service at Pirie St.. It was a blessed time and I thought while taking my vows, it would be well for me to write them down, that I may look at, and read them over sometimes. I have this day been married to the Lord. I have taken Him for my portion 'till death. Have submitted to be just what He pleases to do whatever He will have me do, in fact, I have resolved to have no will of my own but that my will is lost in His. I desire to be made useful in the church if it His will. Nevertheless if He sees fit to lay me aside for His glory, I will be content and in everything desire that not my will but thine Oh Lord be done. I have today a settled peace within, a strong confidence in my Father. Lord, strengthen me to keep these vows for without Thy strength I am perfect weakness.

Nairne Feb.4, 1866.

Here I am back in Nairne again. What changes I have passed through lately to be sure. I was so much pleased when I came up to see so many of the boys and girls from the sabbath school meeting in class, and to hear them express themselves in being justified through the blood of the Lamb.

There has been a good work commenced in Nairne since I was here last. This day has been much blessed to my soul. Tonight I can sing "I'm a days march nearer home". At a fellowship meeting tonight I felt the love of Jesus shed abroad and in my heart. How I long for the perfect love of God, long to be entirely cleansed from sin. I long to be like Jesus that I may win sinners to Him. I feel that I am growing in grace. Humbly I say it for I know that in me, that is in my flesh dwelleth no good thing, but I cast my soul on Jesus and have perfect confidence that whatever He sees fit for me in this world is best. I can say tonight "though He slay me yet will I trust in Him.

Sun 18th Feb. 1866

I am here once more on the hill at the back of our house which commands a very good view of Nairne and from the place where I sit I can see on the left hand Lake Alexandrina stretching away from east to west although it does not look so nice as on a clear day. Then to the south-east rises Mount Barker,

looking quite stern in its blackness in this gloomy day. Down in the valley at my feet lies Nairne, very still and peaceful. It is a very pretty place but I find it very dull, having no companions. This day week will be my last Sunday in Nairne for some time, I suppose, as I am going to take a situation as teacher in a school at Lefevres peninsular. I hope I shall be able to fulfil my duties satisfactorily, for I should not like to be obliged to come home again after putting my parents to so much expense. My prayer is for wisdom to conduct myself as a christian should before the world, that those I may have to mix with may be led to see a beauty in that religion which I profess and may glorify God by giving their hearts to Him. Perhaps He intends to make me useful to others in the place I am going to. I have so long had this great desire to live for God and to work in some way for Him. Oh that He will cleanse my heart from all sin and that He will live and rule in me and make me a fit instrument for bringing others to Him.

Sun Mar. 4th 1866

My last Sunday in Nairne for some time and here I am at the close of it. Am I sorry or glad that I am going away? I scarcely know, but I do know this, that wherever I am called to go, if I can know that it is an arrangement in God's providence I shall be content. I feel that He knows what is best for me and I know that He is able to keep that which I have committed to Him against that day.

Lefevre Peninsular Mar 11, 1866

How many different places I have been in since I commenced to write in this book. What a changeable life mine has been lately. Changeable both as regards my temporal as well as my spiritual matters. I am here now but I do not think it is for long, for I do not think I am capable of fulfilling the position I am in. If there are as many more girls added to the school as Mr. and Mrs. Millard expect that there will be, I shall not be able to manage them.

It is an exceedingly dull place and there is no Chapel nearer than the Port and I am afraid I shall not be able to go to Class or to Chapel except on Sundays in the Winter, if I stay here. I don't know what to do. I am very miserable. Oh how I wish father could afford to keep us home, this is such a dull place. It seems that I am separated from all the rest of the world by heaps of sand. Yet I try to think it is the Providence of God which places me in this position, and I try to reconcile myself to it. I know that when He sees fit for me is best and I shall try and do my duty in the school and to give satisfaction and I pray God to help me and to keep me close to Himself. O God thou knowest what the future of my life is to be. Whatsoever it may be, if it is toil, Thou canst help me to bear it cheerfully, and if it is what I have always wished for- a quiet happy time and kind friends. I will always thank Thee for these blessings and if it shall be an early death, Oh Lord, let me be prepared. O my Father Thou knowest how I long for that country where there is no more parting, nor sorrow, nor sin. How I long to see Thee dear Jesus who didn't die to save my poor sinful soul. This very heart which is so often sinning against Thee, this heart which although so unworthy of Thy love, is longing to love Thee more and serve Thee better. Oh cleanse it Lord, from all sin. I have this day begun reading the memoirs of Miss Adelaide Newton. How much I feel now like she

did, such a longing to grow in grace and to be useful in the world. Oh Lord fill me with Thy Spirit so that I may adorn the doctrines of God and of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Sun Mar. 25th

Again, I am sitting in my quiet little room all alone-yet not alone for my Father is with me. I have this day heard two very impressive discourses. That in the morning by Rev Mr Watsford from Phillipians 1;21 and in the evening by the the Rev Low from Tasmania from Romans 1;16. I often feel that I am ashamed of the Gospel although it is not my wish to be so, for I long to magnify my Lord in my life. I have had some very sweet moments with my Saviour today-truly-"Sweet the moments rich in blessing- Which before the Cross I spend." I have begun to read J.A.Jame s' book "Christian Progress" today- truly these writings are the essence of Christianity. How I wish that I could see that I was making more progress in the Divine Life. When I told Mr M yesterday that I was a Methodist he said, "If all the Methodists were like you, I think I should like them better." I wonder if I am too light and trifling in my manner. I must try and guard against this, for I think too much levity is detrimental to christianity. "Set a watch upon my mouth. Seal Thou the door of my lips that I sin not."

Sun Apr 15th 1866

What a long time it is since I wrote in my book, and what a great many changes have passed over me since that time. Our dear little Arthur died last Sunday morning, about 12 o'clock, so peacefully and beautifully.

"We watched his breathing thro' the night,

His brearhing soft and low,

As in that breast the wave of life

Kept ebbing to and fro."

I never saw anyone die so sweetly before. Death has been in and made a vacancy in the family. I seem very comfortable here in Mr M's. They treat me just as one of the family and I am getting very much atached to the children and all. I do hope I shall be able to give satisfaction and keep my place....I have no desire to go home at all. I was very much impressed by Mr Watsford's address this morning from Romans 8;32. I felt that what I had been asking for in the morning would surely be granted me- being purity of heart. I do long to love Jesus with all my heart and mind and soul and strength. "Nothing do I desire- But Thy pure love within my breast." But really there is so much in the world to call off out attention from God that sometimes I fear I shall never enjoy it. I am determined- as I this morning devoted myself afresh to God and submitted my heart-- to rather sacrifice all my hopes of happiness in this life-- if it is God's will- rather than grow cold in my love to Him. "Jesus, keep my feet from falling Teach me still to follow Thee". I feel more than ever my weakness and insufficiency to anything aright, but where I feel my weakness, there I find Thy strength. Oh Lord knit my heart to Thee. Condescend to come and dwell in me and cast out all sin and make me holy as Thou art holy. May others, those with whom I mix every day, see that I have been with Jesus and have learnt of Him. And now- "Abide with me- I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless, Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness, then do Thou O Lord, abide with me."

Apr. 24 1866

It is not very often that I find time to write now, but I must put down a few words tonight. I went to the Port to hear Mr Newman preach tonight. He spoke from the words "There remaineth therefore a rest for the people of God". He spoke very nicely and I felt that I had reason to hope that I had entered upon that rest, for he said the beginning of it was "Come unto me, all ye that are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest."---"There's nought upon earth to rest upon-all things are changing here.-The smiles of joy we gaze upon-The friends we count most dear- One Friend alone is changeless--The one too oft forgot--Whose love has stood for ages past-- Our Jesus changes not." And truly upon Him I rest. I daily find the natural depravity of my heart springing up and trying to get the victory. Truly the carnal mind is enmity against God. I feel deeply for Mr and Mrs M- that they so often say that they say from experience that it is a bad thing to be joined in marriage with one of a different denomination. Mrs M cannot altogether give up her Church principles and Mr M cannot go to Church. Poor MrM, I feel much for him. I believe the Holy Spirit is striving to lead him to the only true Saviour, but I fancy he trusts too much to the outward form of godliness. He has several times said things to me which would lead me to think so. On Sunday, he asked me if I really had been converted and was living in the fear of God. I told him that I believed that I had been and that I was striving daily to live as a christian should do. Oh God, Thou knowest that I feel this responsibility now resting upon me. I have confessed that Thou hast cleansed me from sin. Let no sin ever be seen in me. May no unruly passion or evil temper of mine bring a reproach upon Thy name. Perhaps Thou hast designed to make me useful here. O that Thou wouldst, Lord, I pray more than all that Thou wouldst give me that heavenly wisdom, that sweetness of temper, that gentleness of spirit, which characterises Thy true disciples. And O! regard my prayer for others and if Thou will condescend to use me, or to make me an instrument of good to others and especially to those I daily associate with. I will praise Thee, for my most earnest desire is to be a true follower of Thee in every sense of the word.

May 4. 1866

Oh dear! what a dreadfully weak and helpless creature I am without God's strength. I sometimes, even now give way to sin and therefore bring reproach upon the name of Christ. Lord, help me, what shall I do? O that Thou would create in me a clean heart and renew a right spirit within me. Lord Thou knowest I shall never be any better of myself unless Thou cleanse me from sin and put Thy Spirit within me. O help me to keep the door of my lips that I sin not with my mouth. Lord let my words be few and well ordered. I fear I often say things heedlessly. O God Thou knowest that I want to live before Thee in such a way as would bring honour to Thy name. I want to glorify Thee in all I speak or think or do. Lord, my prayer is that I may never utter a word that is useless or that would in any way bring reproach on Thy cause. I feel that here I am watched by all around me. My conduct now may either be a stumbling block in MrM's way or that it may win him to Thee. Lord! help me, give me Thy Spirit to help my infirmities for Jesus' sake.

(Amelia died 3 months later-25.8.1866)

North Horwich
19.11.12

This diary of our dear sister
Amelia's has been in my
possession for some years, and
as most of it was written in
pencil & almost illegible, I
have taken the liberty of
transcribing it into our
beloved Father's book.

S. B. Hooper

North Adelaide

21st October 1865

I do not intend to keep a diary
but I have thought I should
like to write down some of
my thoughts & some of the Lord's
dealings with me, so that if I should
be spared to live for a few years
I shall be enabled to see how
the Lord has led me on since I
first began to love Him, & I
may as well just note that
it was on the 17th August last,
that in Archer St. Chapel (while
hearing the Rev. Mr. Taylor of
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words "But if we walk in the
light, even as He is in the light, we
have fellowship one with another

and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son
cleanseth us from all sin") that I
felt that this blood, cleanseth me
from all sin, & I am now endea-
-ving by the grace of God, to walk in the
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Blessed Jesus thou hast been very
precious to me, Be with me in all
my undertakings, & may I do all to
the glory of God.

On Monday the 23^d of October I am
going to Miss Hilliers as assistant
teacher in her school. I hope while
I am there, I shall be able to have
a few minutes in the middle of
the day, to lift up my heart to
God in prayer for grace & strength
to overcome all the fiery darts
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peace from that text "The Lord shall
preserve thee from all evil. He shall
preserve thy soul" I hope I shall some-
-times have opportunities of writing in
my book. Precious Jesus, go with me
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that by Faith I am saved from all
sin

Franklin St

Nov 5th

I have been here now two weeks
& I think I shall be very comfortable
I can get out to Chapel a great
deal more than I expected. I
have been to Pine St Chapel this
morning. heard Mr Burgess preach
the same sermon that I heard
him preach at Native Valley
some time ago, but it was very
good

Went into Mr. Maughans Sunday School next door in the afternoon taught a class. Went to 5th Adelaide in the evening Rev. Mr. Allen preached. I like him very much and tonight I dedicated my self, my life, my all to God anew, while partaking of the Lords Supper.

O High Heaven that heard that solemn vow. That vow renewed shall daily hear" for I am resolved to live for God alone. Oh that He would make me of some little use. I want to do some thing for Him, who gave His life for me. I really must try to write in my book more, for I don't want to forget it or give it up.

2nd January 1866

"What shall I render unto the Lord for all His benefits unto me?"

He has brought me by His grace to see the beginning of another year. I wonder if I shall live to see its close. On Sunday night while attending the Watchnight service at Pirie St. I felt much blessed. I then dedicated myself ^{afresh} to God & His cause. Oh that He would make me useful. I have been to the Hospital today to see a poor girl who is in a decline & I fear, not too long for this world. She begged me to come & see her again. I wonder if I can read to her, or do her any good. I shall certainly try.

I left Miss Hillier last Saturday week. I don't know I am sure what the Lord is going to do with me, but my prayer is, that He would

enable me to do some little towards
saving the souls of those who are
perishing around me.

Sunday Jan 7. 66

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almost gone, but what a happy day
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bold to take up & firm to sustain the
consecrated cross. Afterwards I
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Pine St. It was a blessed time & I

thought, while taking my vows, it would
be well for me to write them down, that
I may look at, & read them over sometimes
I have this day been married to the Lord
I have taken Him for my Portion till death
Have submitted to be just what He pleases
to do whatever He will have me do, in fact
I have resolved to have no will of my own
but that my will is lost in His. I desire
to be made useful in the Church, if it is
His will, nevertheless if He sees fit to lay
me aside for His glory, I will be content
& in everything desire that not my will
but thine O Lord be done. I have today
a calm settled peace within, a strong
confidence in my Father. Lord strengthen
me to keep these vows, for without thy
strength I am perfect weakness.

Gairne Feb 4th 66

Here I am back in Gairne again. What changes I have passed through lately, to be sure. I was so much pleased when I came up to see so many of the boys & girls from the Sabbath School meeting in class, and to hear them express themselves as being justified through the blood of the Lamb. There has been a good work commenced in Gairne since I was here last. This day has been much blessed to my soul. Tonight I am singing "I'm a days march nearer home." At a fellowship meeting tonight I felt the love of Jesus shed abroad in my heart. How I long for the perfect love of God, long to be entirely cleansed from sin, I long to be like Jesus, that I may win sinners

to Him. I feel that I am growing in grace. Humbly I say it, for I know that in me, that is, in my flesh dwelleth no good thing but I cast my soul on Jesus & have perfect confidence that whatever He sees fit for me in this world, is best. I can say tonight "Though He slay me yet will I trust in Him."

Sunday 18th Feb 1866

I am here once more, on the hill, at the back of our house, which commands a very good view of Nairne, & from the place where I sit, I can see on the left hand Lake Alexandrina stretching away from east to west although it does not look so nice as on a clear day. Then to the south-east rises Mt. Barker, looking quite stern in its blackness, this gloomy day.

Down in the gully at my feet lies
Gairne, very still & peaceful. It is
a very pretty place, but I find it
very dull, having no companions.
This day week will be my last Sunday
in Gairne, for some time I suppose
as I am going to take a situation
as teacher in a school at Leithers
Peninsula. I hope I shall be able to
fulfil my duties, satisfactorily, for I
should not like to be obliged to come
home again, after putting my parents
to so much expense. My prayer is
for wisdom to conduct myself as a
Christian should, before the world,
that those I may have to mix up with
may be led to see a beauty in that
religion which I profess, & may
glorify God, by giving their hearts to Him.

Perhaps He intends to make me useful
to others in the place I am going to.
I have so long had the great desire to
live for God & to work in some way for
Him. Oh that He will cleanse my heart
from all sin, & that He will live & rule
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Sunday Mch 4/66

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time & here I am at the close of it.
Am I sorry or glad that I am going
away? I scarcely know, but I do know
this, that wherever I am called to go,
if I can know that it is an arrangement
in God's providence, I shall be content.
I feel that He knows what is best for me
& I know that He is able to keep that which
I have committed to Him, against that day.

Leaves Peninsula

Apr 11th 1866

How many different places I have been in since I commenced to work in this book. What a changeable life mine has been lately, changeable both as regards my temporal as well as my spiritual matters. I am here now but I do not think it is for long, for I do not think I am capable of filling the position I am in. If there are so many more girls added to the School as Mr & Mrs Willard expect, that there will be I shall not be able to manage them. It is an exceedingly dull place & there is no Chapel nearer than the Port & I am afraid I shall not be able to go to Class or to Chapel, except on Sundays in the winter, if I stay here. I don't know what to do, I am very

miserable. Oh how I wish Father could afford to keep us home, this is such a dull place. It seems as if I were separated from all the rest of the world by heaps of sand. Yet I try to think it is the Providence of God which places me in this position & I try to reconcile myself to it. I know that what He sees fit for me is best & I shall try and do my duty in the School & to give satisfaction & I pray God to help me & to keep me close to Himself. O God thou knowest what the future of my life is to be. Whatever it may be, if it is toil, thou canst help me to bear it cheerfully & if it is what I have always wished for - a quiet happy home & kind friends, I will thank Thee for these blessings, or if it should be an early death, O Lord let me be prepared. O my Father thou knowest how I long for that country

where there is no more parting, nor sorrow
nor sin, how I long to see thee dear Jesus
who didst die to save my poor sinful soul.
This very heart, which is so often sinning
against thee, this heart, which although
so unworthy of thy love, is longing to love
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it Lord from all sin. I have this
day begun reading the Memoirs of Miss
Adelaide Newton. How much I feel now
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fill me with thy Spirit, so that I may adorn
the doctrines of God & of our Lord, Jesus Christ.
Sunday Mch 25th

Again I am sitting in my quiet
little room all alone - yet not alone
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discourses. That in the morning
by the Rev. Mr. Watford from Philippians
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I often feel that I am ashamed of the
Gospel, altho it is not my wish to
be so, for I long to magnify my Lord
in my life. I have had some very
sweet moments with my Saviour
today - Truly - Sweet the moments
rich in blessing - Which before the
Cross I spend. I have begun to
read J. A. James' book "Christian
Progress" today. Truly these writings
are the essence of Christianity. How
I wish that I could see that I was mak-
ing more progress in the Divine Life
When I told Mr. W. yesterday that
I was a Methodist - he said - "By all

the Methodists were like you, I think
I should like them better. I wonder
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manner. I must try & guard against
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detrimental to Christianity.

"Seal a watch O Lord upon my mouth
Seal thou the door of my lips that I
speak not"

Sunday April 15th 1866.

What a long time it is since I wrote in
my book & what a great many changes
have passed over me since that time.

Our dear little Arthur died last
Sunday morning, about 12 o'clock
so peacefully & beautifully.

"We watched his breathing thro' the night
His breathing soft & low

As in that breast the wave of life
Kept ebbing to & fro"

I never saw any one die so sweetly
before. Death has been in & made a
vacancy in the family. I seem very
comfortable here at Mr. W's. they
treat me just as one of the family
and I am getting very much attached
to the children & all. I do hope I
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to go home at all. I was very much
impressed by Mr. Watfords address
this morning from Romans 8:32-
I felt that what I had been asking
for in the morning would surely
be granted me - viz - purity of heart
I do long to love Jesus with all my
heart & mind & soul & strength.
Nothing on earth do I desire - But
thy pure love within my breast

But really there is so much in the world to call off our attention from God, that some times I fear I shall never enjoy it. I am determined as I this morning devoted myself afresh to God & submitted my heart to his cleansing - to rather sacrifice all my hopes of happiness in this life - if it is Gods will - rather than grow cold in my love to him.

Jesus keep my feet from falling Teach me still to follow Thee! I feel more than ever my weakness & insufficiency to any thing aright but where I feel my weakness, there I find Thy strength. O Lord knit my heart to Thee. Condescend to come & dwell in me & cast out all sin & make me holy as Thou

art holy. May others, those with whom I mix every day, see that I have been with Jesus & have learned of Him. And now - Abide with me - I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless. I'll have no weight & tears no bitterness, there do Thou O Lord, abide with me.

April 24 1866

It is not very often that I find time to write now, but I must put down a few words tonight I went to the Port to hear Mr Jewman preach tonight. He spoke from the words "There remaineth therefore a rest for the people of God" He spoke very nicely & I felt that I had reason to hope that I had entered upon that rest, for he

said the beginning of it was
"Come unto me, all ye that are weary
& heavy laden, and I will give you rest
There's nought on earth to rest upon
All things are changing here
The smiles of joy, we gave upon
The friends we count most dear
One friend alone is changeless
The One too oft forgot
Whose love has stood for ages past
Our Jesus changeth not."
And truly, upon Him I rest, I
daily find the natural depravity of
my heart springing up & trying to
get the victory. Truly the carnal mind
is enmity against God
I feel deeply for Mr & Mrs H-
they so often say that they find
from experience that it is a bad

thing to be joined in marriage with
one of a different denomination
Mr H- cannot altogether give up his
Church principles & Mrs H- cannot
go to Church. - Poor Mr H- I feel
much for him, I believe the Holy
Spirit is striving to lead him to
the only true Saviour, but I fancy
he trusts too much to the outward
form of godliness. He has several
times said things to me, which
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Sunday he asked me if I really had
been converted & was living in the
fear of God. I told him that I believed
I had been & that I was striving daily
to live as a Christian should do
"O. God thou knowest that I feel this
responsibility now resting upon me

I have confessed that Thou hast
cleansed me from sin. Let no sin
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here. O that Thou wouldst Lord,
I pray more than all, that Thou wouldst
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and humility of spirit, which character-
izes Thy true disciples. And O! regard my
prayer for others & if Thou wilt con-
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an instrument of good to others
and especially to those I daily
associate with. I will praise Thee
for my most earnest desire is to be
a true follower of Thee in every

sense of the word.

May 4th 1866

O! dear, what a dreadfully weak &
helpless creature I am without God's
strength. I sometimes even now
give way to sin, & therefore bring
reproach upon the name of Christ
Lord, help me, what shall I do? O! that
Thou wouldst create in me a clean heart
& renew a right spirit within me
Lord Thou knowest, I shall never be
any better of myself, unless Thou
cleans me from sin & put Thy
spirit within me. O help me to keep
the door of my lips, that I sin not with
my mouth. Lord, let my words be few
& well ordered. I fear I often say things
heedlessly. O God, Thou knowest that I
want to live before Thee in such a way.

as would bring honour to Thy Name
I want to glorify Thee in all I speak
or think or do. Lord my prayer is
that I may never utter a word that
is useless or that would in any way
bring reproach upon Thy cause.
I feel that here I am watched by
all around me. My conduct now
may either be a stumbling block
in Thy way or it may win him
to Thee. Lord! help me, give me
Thy spirit to help my infirmities
for Jesus' sake.