

MS Spencer¹

MS Spencer is given this name to reflect its provenance. It is another notebook (like MS Clarke and MS Shent) in which Wesley gathered manuscript copies of hymns prior to potential publication. Based on a Latin inscription at the front of the notebook by Rev. Edward Spencer (1739–1819), he received it as a gift from Wesley about 1770, after Wesley had published most of the items in it. The notebook was handed down through Spencer’s family until it was obtained by Rylands in 2020.

MS Spencer is unique among Wesley’s manuscript hymn collections in that all of the hymns on the first sixty numbered pages are in shorthand (in CW’s hand). The first three hymns in shorthand also appear (on unnumbered pages that would be 73–81) in longhand. But these are *not* in Wesley’s handwriting (except for a couple of corrections). They were apparently expansions of the shorthand by someone else, that Wesley checked. They are not included in the transcription below because they replicate the text found in the shorthand copies (except for one case²). Numbered pages 63–66 of the notebook have been torn out. The remaining sheets of the notebook are largely blank, with the few notes and sketches that do appear being by someone other than Wesley. There are two lists of names in Wesley’s hand, one at the beginning and one at the end of the notebook, that will be of interest to scholars and are transcribed immediately after this introduction.

All of the hymns appearing here in shorthand can be found in collections published after 1758 or in longhand in other manuscript collections. These other locations are indicated in the table of contents (with published items in [blue font](#)) and in notes on each hymn. Based on its connection to these other settings, this collection of shorthand hymns was likely made c. 1755–1765. There are two hymns at the end that appeared in *Hymns and Sacred Poems* (1742), but Wesley was reframing these for a topic distinct from their earlier setting.

Expansions of items by Wesley in John Byrom’s shorthand typically include both tentative expansions and some cases where expansion is unclear. That is not the case here, because we have Wesley’s own expansion in either the longhand manuscripts or the published form; but we still put each stanza in double brackets “[[]]” as a reminder of the form of the text. We have checked the shorthand closely and note any variant reading from these other settings. The expansions below replicate the form of the hymns in MS Spencer, where Wesley only hinted at many of the divisions between lines of verse by an increased space between shorthand words. Drawing on the other settings, we indicate the division between lines that he assumed by insertion of “[/]” and capitalization of the next word. The shorthand makes no indication of specific spelling, elided letters, extra capitalization, emphasis, or any staggered indentation of lines. Readers can refer to the published and longhand settings on these matters. [To cite a couple of examples: in poetry Wesley typically elided the “e” in past tense verbs (e.g., pray’d), and shortened “through” to “thro’.”] We have expanded the shorthand in plain form with standard spellings. The only elisions we have shown are those necessary to preserve the metre of the verse (for example “o’er” for “over,” or “ev’ning” for “evening.”) Finally, we show punctuation as in the shorthand text, not the longhand or published version.

MS Spencer is now part of the collection of The John Rylands Library, shelfmark: English MS 1583. This expansion / transcription is published with permission of the Librarian and Director, The John Rylands Library, The University of Manchester.

¹This document was produced by the Duke Center for Studies in the Wesleyan Tradition under the editorial direction of Randy L. Maddox, with the diligent assistance of Aileen F. Maddox. Last updated: September 5, 2022.

²See note 9 on page 4 below.

Note

Scholars of early Methodism will be interested in two lists that appear in this notebook. The first is on the fly-leaf facing the first sheet of paper. It is a list in shorthand of members in a Wednesday evening band. Given the names on the list, this band was located in Bristol, c. 1755–65.

[[Wednesday evening band]]

[[John Jones]]	Rev. Dr. John Jones (1721–85)
[[Sarah Jones]]	Sarah (Perrin) Jones (1708–87)
[[Mrs. Vigor]]	Elizabeth (Stafford) Vigor (1697–1774)
[[Nancy Stafford]]	Ann Stafford (1710–92)
[[Molly Stafford]]	Mary Stafford (d. 1782)
[[Susan Designe]]	Susannah Designe (1712–79)
[[Sally Colston]]	Sarah Colston (1716–67)
[[Betty Johnson]]	Elizabeth Johnson (1720–98)
[[Nancy Shepherd]]	
[[Alice Granil]]	
[[Alice Downs]]	possibly Alice Williams, who married Thomas Downs in 1760
[[Sarah Wesley]]	Sarah (Gwynne) Wesley (1726–1822)

The second list appears at the end of the notebook, on the closing fly-leaf. It is a longhand listing of subscribers to a published volume of John Byrom's system of shorthand. While Byrom intended to publish this guide as early as 1723, it did not appear in print until 1767: (*The Universal English Shorthand*). CW taught several persons the system earlier, if they promised to buy the volume when published (see, for example, CW to Walter Sellon, Dec. 14, 1754). This list is likely of such individual case; but it may reflect a more concerted effort to gain subscriptions. It was likely compiled in the mid-1750s: before the death of Thomas Walsh in 1759, or marriage of Dorothy Furly and John Downes in 1764.

Dr Birom's [sic] Subscribers

Mrs. CW	Sarah (Gwynne) Wesley (1726–1822)
Mr. J. Downs	John Downes (c. 1723–74)
Mr. Venn	Rev. Henry Venn (1725–97)
Mr. Daw	both JW and CW mention a Mr. Daw in London in mid 1750s
Mrs. Venn	Eling (Bishop) Venn (1730–67)
Mrs. Grinfield	Anne Grinfield (1710–91)
Mr. Morgan	James Morgan (1736–74), Methodist itinerant
Mr. Knight	Titus Knight (d. 1792), of Halifax, Methodist local preacher in 1750s
Miss Furly	Dorothy Furly (c. 1731–1807)
Mr. E. Perronet	Edward Perronet (1726–92)
Mr. Trembath	John Trembath (fl. 1740–60)
Mr. Hopper	Christopher Hopper (1722–1802)
Mr. Thornton	Henry Thornton (1710–63)
Mr. Maxfield	Thomas Maxfield (d. 1784)
J. Jones	Rev. Dr. John Jones (1721–85)
Mr. Brown	Abraham Brown (c. 1725–80), apprentice to Felix Farley in 1750s
Mr. Walsh	Thomas Walsh (1730–59)

Table of Wesley Hymns in the Volume³

untitled funeral hymn	<i>Funeral Hymns</i> (1759), 1–2	1–2
For One Grown Slack: Part IV	MS Miscellaneous Hymns, 32–33	2–3
For Those in the Wilderness	MS Miscellaneous Hymns, 40–42	4–5
[For Those in the Wilderness] II	<i>Scripture Hymns</i> (1762), 2:65–66 (OT, ##1309–11)	5–6
[For Those in the Wilderness] III	<i>Scripture Hymns</i> (1762), 2:66–68 (OT, ##1312–13)	6–7
The Light of Faith	<i>Funeral Hymns</i> (1759), 2–4	7–9
Another [funeral hymn]	<i>Funeral Hymns</i> (1759), 4–6	9–11
For One in the Country	<i>Family Hymns</i> (1767), 157–58	12–13
Another [For One in the Country]	<i>Family Hymns</i> (1767), 158–59	13–14
III [For One in the Country]	MS Richmond, 148	14
IV [For One in the Country]	<i>Scripture Hymns</i> (1762), 1:255 (#795)	14
V [For One in the Country]	<i>Scripture Hymns</i> (1762), 1:295 (##934–35)	14–15
Hymns for a Christian Family, or Church		
[I]	<i>Family Hymns</i> (1767), 43–44	16
II	<i>Intercession Hymns</i> (1758), 30–31	16
III. Revelation 4:8	<i>Intercession Hymns</i> (1758), 29–30	17
IV	<i>Intercession Hymns</i> (1758), 31–32	17–18
V	<i>Intercession Hymns</i> (1758), 33–34	18–20
VI	<i>Intercession Hymns</i> (1758), 32–33	20
VII	<i>Family Hymns</i> (1767), 37–38	21
VIII	<i>Family Hymns</i> (1767), 39	22
IX	<i>Family Hymns</i> (1767), 40	23
X	<i>Family Hymns</i> (1767), 41	24
XI	<i>Family Hymns</i> (1767), 41–42	24–25
XII	<i>Family Hymns</i> (1767), 42–43	25–26
		27–32
[Blank Pages]		
For Purity	MS Miscellaneous Hymns, 81–82	33
[Written in Uncertainty]		
[I]	<i>Family Hymns</i> (1767), 159–60	34
II	<i>Family Hymns</i> (1767), 160–62	35–36
III	<i>Family Hymns</i> (1767), 162–63	36–38
On the Death of Mrs. Ann Wigginton	<i>Funeral Hymns</i> (1759), 31–34	38–40
On the Death of Mrs. Mary Naylor [6 Parts]	<i>Funeral Hymns</i> (1759), 49–59	41–49
The Thanksgiving	<i>Funeral Hymns</i> (1759), 60–61	49–50
Another [Thanksgiving]	<i>Funeral Hymns</i> (1759), 59–60	51
For a Backslider	MS Miscellaneous Hymns, 34–36	52–53
[What Must I Do to Be Saved]	MS Miscellaneous Hymns, 37–40	54–56
On the Death of Westley Hall	<i>Funeral Hymns</i> (1759), 18–19	57–58
For Christian Fellowship	<i>HSP</i> (1742), 207–08	59
[For Christian Fellowship]	<i>HSP</i> (1742), 208–10	60–61

³CW compiled a table of contents at the front of the volume (before the numbered pages), using mainly the first line of each hymn in shorthand. We have followed the style in our other manuscript collections of using titles instead.

[untitled funeral hymn]¹

- [1.] [[Come let us join our friends above [/] That have obtained the prize
And on the eagle-wings of love [/] To joy celestial rise;
Let all the saints terrestrial sing [/] With those to glory gone,
For all the servants of our King [/] In earth and heaven are one.]]
2. [[One family we dwell in him, [/] One church above, beneath,
Tho' now divided by the stream, [/] The narrow stream of death.
One army of the living God, [/] To his command we bow:
Part of his host hath crossed the flood, [/] And part is crossing now!]]
3. [[Ten thousand to their endless home [/] This solemn moment fly:
And we are to the margin come [/] And we expect to die:
His militant, embodied host [/] With wishful looks we stand
And long to see that happy coast, [/] And reach that heavenly land.]]
4. [[Our old companions in distress [/] We haste again to see,
And eager long for our release, [/] And full felicity:]]

¹A manuscript precursor of the first four stanzas of this hymn appears in CW's longhand in MS Richmond, 156. The full hymn is found in longhand in MS Six, 23–24. It was published in *Funeral Hymns* (1759), 1–2. The shorthand copy here contains no variants from the published form. A longhand expansion of the hymn in a hand other than CW appears on pp. [73–75] of MS Spencer (with no variants).

[[Ev'n now by faith we join our hands [/] With those that went before,
And greet the blood-besprinkled bands [/] On the eternal shore.]]

5. [[Our spirits too shall quickly join [/] Like theirs with glory crowned,
And shout to see our captain's sign, [/] To hear his trumpet sound.
O that we now might grasp our guide, [/] O that the word were given!
Come Lord of hosts the waves divide, [/] And land us all in heaven.]]

**[[For One Grown Slack]]²
[[The Fourth or Last Part]]**

- [1.] [[What is it Lord³ which now constrains [/] My hardness to lament?
Why do I miss my former pains, [/] And wish I could relent?
It is my advocate above [/] Who forces me to hope,
It is the voice of bleeding love [/] "How shall I give thee up?"]⁴
2. [[Lord, if thy love doth still abound [/] Above my sin's excess,
If still thou art my spokesman found [/] Before the throne of grace;
If one so doubly dead to God [/] Thou canst revive again,
Revive me now, restore my load, [/] And give me back my pain.]]

²This hymn appears in longhand in MS Miscellaneous Hymns, 32–33 (following the first three Parts). Published posthumously in *Unpublished Poetry*, 3:255–56. There are four variants from the longhand form in this shorthand version (noted below). A longhand expansion of the hymn in a hand other than CW appears on pp. [75–78] in MS Spencer; there are two corrections of the expansion that may be in CW's hand, but they simply bring it into agreement with the shorthand version.

³MS Miscellaneous Hymns reads "then" in place of "Lord."

⁴Hos. 11:8.

3. [[Giver of power to them that faint [/] Thy power to me impart,
Thy whole omnipotence I want [/] To rouse my languid heart:
I want the voice that wakes the dead [/] To bid my soul arise,
And follow where my captain led, [/] And labour up the skies.]]
4. [[O for the strength of fervent zeal, [/] The faith in Jesu's name,
Which dares the flood, and scales the hill, [/] And rushes through the flame.
Which wrestles on securely⁵ bold [/] The secret name to know
With violent faith on God lays hold [/] And will not let him go.]]
5. [[Spirit of life and power⁶ inspire [/] This faint and feeble breast
With even infinite desire [/] Of my eternal rest:
Stir up my soul its strength t' exert [/] With never-slack'ning care,
And groan thyself within my heart [/] Th' unutterable prayer.]]
6. [[I would be governed by thy will, [/] I would be wholly thine.
Now Lord my gasping spirit fill [/] With energy divine;
And that my zeal no more may cool, [/] Come heavenly comforter,
Take full possession of my soul, [/] And dwell for ever there.]]⁷

⁵MS Miscellaneous Hymns reads "divinely" in place of "securely."

⁶MS Miscellaneous Hymns reads "power and life" in place of "life and power."

⁷MS Miscellaneous Hymns had "there," but replaced it with "here."

[[For Those in the Wilderness.]]⁸

- [1.] [[Jesus help as weak a soul [/] As ever hoped in Thee!
 Longing still to be made whole [/] And perfectly set free.
 Lo, I at thy feet remain, [/] And groan in exquisite distress.
 Turn and look me out of pain, [/] And look⁹ me back my peace.]]
2. [[Once in a new world of light [/] On eagles' wings I rode.
 Long conversed in Tabor's height [/] With thee my friend my God.
 Now I droop, and mourn again, [/] Along the dreary wilderness,
 Turn and look me out of pain, [/] And look me back my peace.]]
3. [[Strong I seemed and rich in grace [/] When first I lisped thy name
 But the hidings of thy face [/] Have showed me what I am:
 Yes, I know myself but man, [/] I feel my utter helplessness. [/] Turn and look etc.¹⁰]]
4. [[Sinks my weary feeble mind [/] Beneath its weight of care
 Labouring through the fire to find [/] Its old relief in prayer;
 Labouring on, yet still in vain, [/] While horrid doubts my spirit seize. [/] Turn and etc.]]
5. [[Faintly hoping against hope [/] Devoid of life and power
 Now I would decline the cup [/] I gladly drank before,]]

⁸This hymn appears in longhand in MS Miscellaneous Hymns, 40–42, titled “For One in the Wilderness.” There is only one variant in this setting. Published posthumously in *Unpublished Poetry*, 3:258–60. A longhand expansion of the hymn in a hand other than CW appears on pp. [79–81] in MS Spencer.

⁹In the longhand expansion of this hymn in MS Spencer, the word “look” is changed to “give” in each stanza where the line appears. It is not clear that this change was due to or approved by CW.

¹⁰I.e. repeat the closing couplet as shown earlier.

[[Now I shun my former gain [/] And fears of death my heart oppress; [/] Turn etc.]]

6. [[Once I knew the Master's mind, [/] Which now I cannot know,
Doubly dead to God and blind [/] To all his ways below;
Who his counsel can explain, [/] Or trace him through the dark abyss? [/] Turn etc.]]
7. [[O for one kind pitying ray [/] To lead me through the gloom¹¹
Till the long-expected day [/] Of my deliverance come!
Till that heavenly port I gain [/] Emerging from these stormy seas,
Turn and look me out of pain, [/] And look me back my peace.]]

[For Those in the Wilderness]

II¹²

- [1.] [[Sing to the faithful God of love [/] His goodness and his truth we prove,
Allured into the wilderness [/] Beneath the long-incumbent cloud [/] We praise the twofold
gift of God, [/] The joyous and the patient grace.
Who to his people came unsought, [/] He hath into the desert brought [/] And fenced us round
with sacred thorn,
Reproved our unbelieving haste [/] And given our humbled souls to taste [/] The blessedness of all
that mourn.]]
2. [[Here in the depth of sweet distress [/] Again our vineyards we possess [/] And drink the dead-
reviving wine.
He lifts our drooping spirits up [/] Gives us an open door of hope [/] And cheers
with confidence divine: [/] Again the hidden God appears, [/] He scatters all our gloomy fears,]]

¹¹MS Miscellaneous Hymns reads “To cheer me in the gloom.”

¹²A longhand version of this hymn on Hosea 2 appears in MS Richmond, 2:132–33, with no variants from this shorthand form. The three stanzas were published subsequently (with slight revision) as three two-stanza hymns on Hosea 2:14–15 in *Scripture Hymns* (1762), 2:65–66 (OT, #1309–#1311).

[[The joy of conscious faith imparts, [/] He gives us back our former love,
Restores the kingdom from above, [/] And writes forgiveness on our hearts.]]

3. [[We sing as in our¹³ earliest days, [/] That rapt'rous infancy of grace
When first we felt the sprinkled blood, [/] Exulting out of Egypt came,
And shouting our Redeemer's name [/] Triumphant passed the parted flood.
Jesus the Lord again we sing, [/] Who did to us salvation bring
And now repeats our sins forgiven, [/] We now his glorious Spirit breathe,
Tread down the fear of hell and death, [/] And live on earth the life of heaven.]]

[For Those in the Wilderness]

III¹⁴

- [1.] [[Allured into the desert [/] Of trouble and temptation,
Again we hear [/] The comforter [/] The God of our salvation.
The door of hope is opened [/] Ev'n in the depth of sadness,
His pard'ning voice [/] Restores our joys [/] And fills our heart with gladness.]]
2. [[Ev'n here he bids us triumph [/] In his experienced favour,
As in the days [/] Of infant grace [/] When first we found our Saviour;
Out of the land of Egypt as when divinely driven¹⁵ [/] In haste we came [/] And hymned the name
[/] That spake our sins forgiven.]]

¹³*Scripture Hymns* changed “our” to “those.”

¹⁴This five-stanza hymn was later published in *Scripture Hymns* (1762), 2:66–68; the first two stanzas comprising a hymn on Hosea 2:14 (#1312), and the last three a hymn on Hosea 2:15 (#1313). The variants in the published form are noted below.

¹⁵*Scripture Hymns* changed to “Out of the iron furnace [/] As when by Pharaoh driven.”

3. [[The name we still acknowledge [/] That burst our bonds in sunder,
And loudly sing [/] Our conquering king [/] In songs of joy and wonder:
In every day's deliverance [/] Our Jesus we discover;
Tis he, tis he! [/] That smote the sea, [/] And led us safely over.]]
4. [[In sin's and Satan's onsets [/] He still our souls secures,
Our guardian God [/] Looks through the cloud, [/] And blasts our fierce pursuers,
He fights his people's battles [/] Omnipotently glorious,
He fights alone, [/] And makes his own [/] O'er earth and hell victorious.]]
5. [[Partakers of his triumph, [/] In vehement expectation
We now stand still [/] To prove his will, [/] And see his great salvation;
With violent faith and patience [/] To seize the kingdom given,
The purchased rest [/] In Jesu's breast, [/] The promised land of heaven.]]¹⁶

[[The Light of Faith]]¹⁷

- [1.] [[How happy every child of grace, [/] Who knows his sins forgiven!
This earth, he cries, is not my place, [/] I seek my place in heaven:
A country far from mortal sight, [/] Yet oh by faith I see
The land of rest, the saints' delight, [/] The heaven prepared for me.]]

¹⁶*Scripture Hymns* changed the ending to “The inheritance of heaven.”

¹⁷This hymn appears in longhand in MS Richmond, 134–36; and published in *Funeral Hymns* (1759), 2–4. The longhand copy is likely subsequent to this shorthand copy, as it contains the one variant found also in the published form.

2. [[A stranger in the world below, [/] I calmly sojourn here,
Nor can its happiness or woe [/] Provoke my hope or fear.
Its evils in a moment end, [/] Its joys as soon are past;
But oh the bliss to which I tend [/] Eternally shall last.]]
3. [[To that Jerusalem above [/] With singing I repair,
While in the flesh my hope and love, [/] My heart and soul are there.
There my exalted Saviour stands, [/] My merciful high-priest,
And still extends his wounded hands [/] To take me to his breast.]]
4. [[What is there here to court my stay, [/] To hold me back from home
While angels beckon me away, [/] And Jesus bids me come?
Shall I regret my parted friends [/] Still in the vale confined?
Nay, but whene'er my soul ascends, [/] They will not stay behind.]]
5. [[The race we all are running now, [/] And if I first attain,
They too their willing head shall bow, [/] They too the prize shall gain.
Now on the brink of death we stand, [/] And if I pass before,
They all shall soon escape to land, [/] And hail me on the shore.]]

6. [[Then let me suddenly remove, [/] That hidden life to share,
I shall not lose my friends above, [/] But more enjoy them there.
There we in Jesu's praise shall join, [/] His boundless love proclaim,
And solemnize in songs divine [/] The marriage of the Lamb.]]
7. [[O what a blessed hope is ours! [/] While here on earth we stay,
We more than taste the heavenly powers, [/] And antedate that day;
We feel the resurrection near, [/] Our life in Christ concealed,
And with his glorious presence here [/] The¹⁸ earthen vessels filled.]]
8. [[O would he more of heaven bestow, [/] And let the vessel break,
And let our ransomed spirits go [/] To grasp the God we seek;
In rapturous awe on him to gaze [/] Who bought the sight for me,
And shout and wonder at his grace [/] Through all eternity.]]

[[**Another.**]]¹⁹

- [1.] [[And let this feeble body fail, [/] And let it droop or die,
My soul shall quit the mournful vale, [/] And soar to worlds on high,
Shall join the disembodied saints [/] And find its long-sought rest,
That only bliss for which it pants [/] In its²⁰ redeemer's breast.]]

¹⁸MS Richmond and *Funeral Hymns* change “the” to “our.”

¹⁹This hymn appears in longhand in MS Richmond, 136–39; and published in *Funeral Hymns* (1759), 4–6. The longhand copy is likely subsequent to this shorthand copy, as it contains some of the variants found in the published form.

²⁰MS Richmond and *Funeral Hymns* change “its” to “my.”

2. [[In hope of that immortal crown [/] We²¹ now the cross sustain,
And gladly wander up and down, [/] And smile at toil and pain:
I suffer out my threescore years [/] Till my deliverer come,
And wipe away his servant's tears, [/] And take his exile home.]]
3. [[Surely he will not long delay; [/] I hear his Spirit cry
"Arise my love make haste away, [/] Go get thee up and die."
"O'er death who now has lost his sting, [/] I give the victory
And with me my reward I bring, [/] I bring my heaven for thee.]]
4. [[Lord, I the welcome word receive, [/] Thee on the mount adore,
For thy dear sake content to live [/] Some painful moments more;
I live in holy grief and joy, [/] On Pisgah's top I stand,
And life's important point employ [/] To view the promised land.]]
5. [[O what hath Jesus bought for me! [/] Before my ravished eyes
Rivers of life divine I see, [/] And trees of paradise
They flourish in perpetual bloom, [/] Fruit every month they give,
And to the healing leaves who come [/] Eternally shall live.]]

²¹MS Richmond and *Funeral Hymns* change "we" to "I."

6. [[I see a world of spirits bright [/] Who reap the pleasures there,
They all are robed in purest white, [/] And conquering palms they bear:
Adorned by their redeemer's grace [/] They close pursue the lamb,
And every shining front displays [/] Th' unutterable name.]]
7. [[They drink the deifying stream [/] They pluck th' ambrosial fruit,
And each records the praise of him [/] Who tuned his golden lute:
At once they strike th' harmonious wire, [/] And hymn the great Three-One
He hears, he smiles; and all the choir [/] Fall down before his throne.]]
8. [[O what an heaven of heavens is this [/] This ecstasy of love!²²
How poor the world's sublimest bliss, [/] Compared with joys above!
With joys above may I be blest, [/] And earthly bliss I scorn,
Or sing triumphantly distrest [/] Till I to God return.]]
9. [[O what are all my sufferings here, [/] If Lord thou count me meet
With that enraptured host t' appear, [/] And worship at thy feet!
Give joy or grief, give ease or pain, [/] Take life or friends away:
I come to find²³ them all again²⁴ [/] In that eternal day.]]

²²*Funeral Hymns* changed "ecstasy of" to "swoon of silent."

²³Orig., "meet."

²⁴MS Richmond reads "But let me find them all again."

[[For One in the Country²⁵]]²⁶

- [1.] [[Merciful God what hast thou done [/] For a poor sojourner,
How strangely drawn and led me on [/] To seek salvation here!]]
2. [[Here in the solitary shade [/] I seek the things above,
In calm²⁷ distress implore thine aid, [/] And languish for thy love.]]
3. [[Thou, only thou canst sooth my grief, [/] And calm my troubled breast,
Afford the permanent relief, [/] The everlasting rest,]]²⁸
4. [[Th' irreparable loss repair, [/] And draw th' envenomed dart,
And shut the world of sin and care [/] Out of my peaceful heart.]]
5. [[Sorrow and sin are chased away, [/] Whene'er thy love appears,
The gloom it brightens into day, [/] And dries the mourner's tears.]]
6. [[It makes the²⁹ wounded spirit whole, [/] Pours in the balm divine,
And whispers to my³⁰ inmost soul [/] "The pard'ning God is thine.']]
7. [[Come then thou universal good [/] And bid my heart be still,³¹
And let me meet thee in the wood, [/] Or find thee on the hill.]]³²
- 8.³³ [[My soul to nobler prospects raise [/] My wid'ning³⁴ views extend,
Beyond the bounds of time and space [/] Where pain and death shall end.]]

²⁵In the sense of a spiritual retreat.

²⁶This hymn appears in longhand in MS Richmond, 127–29; and published in *Family Hymns* (1767), 157–58. The longhand is likely prior to this shorthand copy, as MS Spencer orders the text the same as in the published form—though the 10 four-line stanzas are presented as 5 eight-line stanzas in *Family Hymns*.

²⁷MS Richmond and *Family Hymns* change “calm” to “deep.”

²⁸*Family Hymns* changed “everlasting” to “true internal.”

²⁹*Family Hymns* changed “the wounded” to “a wounded.”

³⁰*Family Hymns* changed “my” to “mine.”

³¹Orig., “rejoice”; changed to “be still.”

³²MS Richmond interchanged “find” and “meet” in the two lines.

³³MS Richmond transposes stanzas 8 and 9.

³⁴*Family Hymns* changed “wid'ning” to “largest.”

9. [[Lead to the streams of paradise, [/] My raptured spirit lead
And bid the tree of life arise, [/] And flourish o'er my head.]]
10. [[Place me by faith on Pisgah's top [/] The people's joys³⁵ to prove,
And then receive thy servant up [/] To see thy face above.]]

[[**Another.** [For One in the Country]]³⁶

- [1.] [[Hence lying world with all thy care [/] With all thy shows of good and³⁷ fair,
Of beautiful or great. [/] Stand with thy slighted charms aloof,
Nor dare invade my peaceful roof, [/] Or trouble my retreat.]]
2. [[Far from thy mad fantastic ways [/] I here have found a lodging³⁸ place
Of poor wayfaring men [/] Calm as the hermit in his grot,
I here enjoy my happy lot, [/] And solid pleasures gain.]]
3. [[Along the hill or dewy mead [/] In sweet forgetfulness I tread
Or wander through the grove, [/] As Adam in his native seat
In all his works my God I meet [/] The object of my love.]]
4. [[I see his beauty in the flower, [/] To shade my walks and deck my bower
His love and wisdom join; [/] Him in the feathered choir I hear,
And own while all my soul is ear, [/] The music is divine.]]

³⁵*Family Hymns* changed “people’s joys” to “antepast.”

³⁶This hymn appears in longhand in MS Richmond, 146–47; and published in *Family Hymns* (1767), 158–59. Frank Baker suggests (*Representative Verse*, 236) that this and the next three hymns were composed in April 1751, while CW spent a week at St. Anne’s Hill, near Chertsey. His time was spent “chiefly in reading, singing, and prayer,” while recuperating, in part, from the shock of his brother’s marriage (cf. CW, *Manuscript Journal*, Apr. 9, 1751).

³⁷MS Richmond and *Family Hymns* have “or fair” instead of “and fair.”

³⁸*Family Hymns* changed “lodging” to “resting.”

5. [[In yon unbounded plain I see [/] A sketch of his immensity,
Who spans these ample skies, [/] Whose presence makes the happy place,
And opens in the wilderness [/] An earthly³⁹ paradise.]]
6. [[O would he now himself impart, [/] And fix the Eden in my heart,
The sense of sin forgiven, [/] How should I then throw off my load,
And walk delightfully with God, [/] And follow Christ to heaven!]]

III. [For One in the Country]⁴⁰

[[Hide me in the peaceful shade [/] For lonely contemplation made,
Where the birds on every tree [/] Whistle artless melody,
Where the river winds⁴¹ so slow, [/] And the prospect swells below⁴²
And every soul may muse its fill [/] Under the side of St. Anne's Hill!

IV. [For One in the Country]]⁴³

[[Bear me to the sacred scene [/] The silent streams and pastures green
There⁴⁴ the crystal waters shine [/] Springing up with life divine,
There⁴⁵ the flock of Israel feed, [/] Guided by their shepherd's tread
And every sheep delights to hide [/] Under the tree where Jesus died.]]

V. [For One in the Country]]⁴⁶

[[The voice of my beloved sounds [/] While o'er the mountain-tops he bounds,]]

³⁹*Family Hymns* changed “an earthly” to “a blooming.”

⁴⁰This hymn appears in longhand in MS Richmond, 148.

⁴¹MS Richmond has “glides” instead of “winds.”

⁴²MS Richmond begins the line: “Where the landscape.”

⁴³This hymn appears in longhand in MS Richmond, 148; and was published in *Scripture Hymns* (1762), 1:255 (#795).

⁴⁴*Scripture Hymns* changed “There” to “Where.”

⁴⁵*Scripture Hymns* changed “There” to “Where.”

⁴⁶This hymn was published in *Scripture Hymns* (1762), 1:295 (#934–#935).

[[He flies exulting o'er the hills, [/] And all my soul with transport fills.
Gently doth he chide my stay, [/] "Rise my love and come away."]]

2. [[The scattered clouds are fled at last, [/] The rain is gone, the winter past,
The lovely vernal flowers appear, [/] The warbling choir enchant our ear.
Now with sweetly pensive moan, [/] Cooes the turtle-dove alone.]]
3. [left blank]

[[Hymns for a Christian Family, or Church.]]

[I.]⁴⁷

- [1.] [[Head of the church appear appear [/] Assembled with thy members here,
Who in thy name and Spirit meet [/] And tremble at thy wounded feet.]]
2. [[O'ercome, o'erwhelmed with mercy's power [/] We meekly wonder and adore,
With silent awe thy goodness prove, [/] Or triumph in thy dying love.]]
3. [[Whene'er thou dost thy love reveal [/] Unutterable bliss we feel,
We feel the virtue of thy name [/] In holy fear and humble shame.]]
4. Constrained by pure delight we own [/] The everlasting life begun,
Glory anticipate in grace, [/] And heaven in thine⁴⁸ smiling face.

II.⁴⁹

- [1.] [[He comes, He comes, The judge severe, [/] The seventh trumpet speaks him near!
His lightnings flash his thunders roll, [/] How welcome to the faithful soul.]]
2. [[From heaven angelic voices sound, [/] See the almighty Jesus crowned,
Girt with omnipotence and grace, [/] And glory decks the saviour's face.]]
3. [[Descending on his azure throne, [/] He claims the kingdoms for his own
The kingdoms all obey his word, [/] And hail him their triumphant Lord.]]
4. [[Shout all the people of the sky, [/] And all the saints of the Most-High,
Our Lord who now his right obtains, [/] Forever and forever reigns.]]

⁴⁷*Family Hymns* (1767), 43–44.

⁴⁸*Family Hymns* changed “thine” to “thy.”

⁴⁹A manuscript copy of this hymn in JW's hand survives at MARC (MA 1977/157, JW III.8); and it was published in *Intercession Hymns* (1758), 30–31. There are no variants in these settings.

[[Hymn]] III. [[Revelation]] 4:8.⁵⁰

- [1.] [[O when shall we supremely blest [/] Enter the rapturous unrest,
Partake the triumph of the sky, [/] And holy holy holy cry!]]
2. [[We render thanks with one accord [/] To our almighty God and Lord,
Who was and is and is to come, [/] Let Jesus all his power assume.]]
3. [[Jesus let his whole church adore [/] The elders and the living four,
Worship divine to Christ be given [/] By every citizen of heaven.]]
4. [[With all that angel-host, with all [/] Those blessed saints we long to fall,
And sing in ecstasies unknown, [/] And praise him on his dazzling throne.]]
5. [[Honour and majesty and power, [/] And thanks and blessing evermore,
Who dost through endless ages live [/] Thou Lord art worthy to receive.]]
6. [[For thou hast bid the creatures be, [/] And still subsist to pleasure thee
From thee they came, to thee they tend, [/] Their gracious source, their glorious end.]]

IV.⁵¹

- [1.] [[Rise ye dearly purchased sinners, [/] Filled with faith's assurance rise,
Through the loss of Jesus winners, [/] Lords of all in earth and skies,
Sing and triumph [/] In his bleeding sacrifice.]]
2. [[To his meritorious passion [/] All our happiness we owe,]]

⁵⁰This hymn was published in *Intercession Hymns* (1758), 29–30 (with no variants).

⁵¹This hymn was published in *Intercession Hymns* (1758), 31–32 (with no variants).

- [[Pardon holiness salvation, [/] Heaven above and heaven below,
Grace and glory [/] From that open fountain flow.]]
3. [[Blest in our returning saviour [/] When he hath prepared our place,
We shall reign with him for ever, [/] Folded in his love's embrace,
Come redeemer, [/] Show us all thy heavenly face.]]
 4. [[Now reveal thy full salvation, [/] Let thy brightest light'nings shine,
In the thund'ring acclamation [/] While both saints and angels join,
Sounds the trumpet [/] Flames unfurl the crimson sign.]]
 5. [[With thine army of cross-bearers [/] Lo we wait, we long to rise,
In thy royal triumph sharers, [/] In thy joy beyond the skies,
Come the kingdom, [/] Saviour bring th' immortal prize.]]
 6. [[Answer thy own bride and Spirit, [/] Hasten Lord the general doom,
The new heav'n and earth t' inherit [/] Take thy pining exiles home,
All creation [/] Travails groans and bids thee come.]]

V.⁵²

- [1.] [[Lift your heads ye friends of Jesus, [/] Partners of⁵³ his patience here,
Christ to all believers precious [/] Lord of lords shall soon appear;]]

⁵²This hymn was published in *Intercession Hymns* (1758), 33–34, with one variant and an additional stanza.

⁵³*Intercession Hymns* changed “of” to “in.”

- [[Mark the tokens [/] Of his heavenly kingdom near!]]
2. [[Hear all nature's groans proclaiming [/] Nature's swift-approaching doom,
War and pestilence and famine [/] Signify the wrath to come,
Cleaves the center, [/] Nations rush into the tomb.]]
 3. [[Close behind the tribulation [/] Of these last tremendous days,
See the flaming revelation, [/] See the universal blaze,
Earth and heaven [/] Melt before the judge's face!]]
 4. [[Sun and moon are both confounded; [/] Darkened into endless night,
When with angel-hosts surrounded, [/] In his Father's glory bright
Beams the Saviour, [/] Shines the everlasting light.]]
 5. [[See the stars from heaven falling, [/] Hark on earth the doleful cry,
Men on rocks and mountains calling [/] While the frowning judge draws nigh
Hide us hide us, [/] Rocks and mountains from his eye!]]
 6. [[With what different exclamation [/] Shall the saints his banner see,
By the monuments of his passion, [/] By the marks received for me.
All discern him [/] All with shouts cry out 'Tis [he⁵⁴]!]]
 7. [[Lo 'tis he, Our heart's desire, [/] Come for his espoused below,
Come to join us with his choir, [/] Come to make our joys o'erflow,]]

⁵⁴The shorthand mark for "he" is missing; surely a mistake.

[[Palms of victory, [/] Crowns of glory to bestow.]]⁵⁵

VI.⁵⁶

- [1.] [[Lo he comes with clouds descending, [/] Once for favoured sinners slain,
Thousand, thousand saints attending [/] Swell the triumph of his train,
Hallelujah! [/] God appears on earth to reign.]]
2. [[Every eye shall now behold him, [/] Robed in dreadful majesty,
Those who set at nought and sold him, [/] Pierced and nailed him to the tree,
Deeply wailing, [/] Shall the true Messiah see.]]
3. [[The dear tokens of his passion [/] Still his dazzling body bears,
Cause of endless exultation [/] To his ransomed worshippers,
With what rapture [/] Gaze we on those glorious scars!]]
4. [[Yea amen! Let all adore thee [/] High on thine eternal throne,
Saviour take the power and glory, [/] Claim the kingdom for thine own,
Jah Jehovah, [/] Everlasting God come down!]]

⁵⁵An eighth stanza is added in *Intercession Hymns*.

⁵⁶This hymn was published in *Intercession Hymns* (1758), 32–33 (with no variants). The first two stanzas are CW's revision of Hymn 128 in John Cennick, *A Collection of Sacred Hymns* (Dublin: Powell, 1752), 132.

VII.⁵⁷

- [1.] [[Except the Lord conduct the plan, [/] Our best-concerted schemes are vain,
And never can succeed, [/] We spend our wretched strength for nought:
But if our works in God are wrought, [/] They shall be blest indeed.]]
2. [[Lord, if thou didst thyself inspire [/] Our hearts with this intense desire
Thy goodness to proclaim, [/] Thy glory if we now intend,
O let our deed begin and end [/] Complete in Jesu's name.]]
3. [[In Jesu's name behold we meet, [/] Far from an evil world retreat,
And all its frantic ways, [/] One only thing resolved to know,
And square our useful lives below [/] By reason and by grace.]]
4. [[Not in the tombs we pine to dwell, [/] Not in the dark monastic cell
By vows and grates confined, [/] Freely to all ourselves we give,
Constrained by Jesu's love to live [/] The servants of mankind.]]
5. [[Now Jesus now thy love impart, [/] To govern each devoted heart,
And fit it⁵⁸ for thy will [/] Deep founded in the truth of grace [/] Build up our rising church, and place
The city on the hill.]]
6. [[O let our faith and love abound, [/] O let our lives to all around
With purest lustre shine, [/] That all but us our works may see,
And give the glory Lord to thee [/] The heavenly light divine.]]

⁵⁷This hymn was published in *Family Hymns* (1767), 37–38.

⁵⁸*Family Hymns* changed “it” to “us.”

VIII.⁵⁹

- [1.] [[Come wisdom power and grace divine, [/] Come Jesus in thy name to join
An happy chosen band, [/] Who fain would prove thine utmost will,
And all thy righteous laws fulfil [/] In love's benign command.]]
2. [[If pure essential love thou art, [/] Thy nature into every heart
Thy loving self inspire, [/] Bid all our simple souls be one,
United in a bond unknown, [/] Baptized with heavenly fire.]]
3. [[Still may we to our center tend, [/] To spread thy praise our common end,
To help each other on, [/] Companions through the wilderness,
To share a moment's pain, and seize [/] An everlasting crown.]]
4. [[Jesus, our tendered souls prepare, [/] Infuse the softest social care,
The warmest charity, [/] The bowels of our bleeding Lamb,
The virtues of thy wondrous name, [/] The heart which was in thee.]]
5. [[Supply what every member wants, [/] To found the fellowship of saints
Thy Spirit, Lord, supply, [/] So shall we all thy love receive,
Together to thy glory live, [/] And to thy glory die.]]

⁵⁹This hymn is published in *Family Hymns* (1767), 39 (with no variants).

IX.⁶⁰

- [1.] [[O Saviour cast a gracious smile, [/] Our gloomy guilt and selfish guile,
And shy mistrust remove, [/] The true simplicity impart,
To fashion every passive heart [/] And mould it into love.]]
2. [[Our naked hearts to thee we raise, [/] Whate'er obstructs thy work of grace,
Forever drive it hence, [/] Exert thine all-subduing power,
And ev'ry unborn⁶¹ soul restore [/] To child-like innocence.]]
3. [[Soon as in thee we gain a part, [/] Our spirit purged from nature's art
Appears by grace forgiven, [/] We then pursue our sole design,
To lose our melting will in thine, [/] And want no other heaven.]]
4. [[O that we now the power might feel [/] To do on earth thy blessed will
As angels do above, [/] In thee the life the truth the way
To walk and perfectly obey [/] Thy sweet constraining love.]]
5. [[Jesu,⁶² fulfil our one desire, [/] And spread the spark of living fire
Through every hallowed breast, [/] Bless with divine conformity,
And give us now to find in thee [/] Our everlasting rest.]]

⁶⁰This hymn is published in *Family Hymns* (1767), 40 (with one clear variant).

⁶¹*Family Hymns* changed "ev'ry unborn" to "each regen'rate."

⁶²The shorthand is clearly "Jesu," but rendered "Jesus" in *Family Hymns*.

X.⁶³

- [1.] [[How happy we whom grace unites [/] In Jesu's precious name,
Whom mercy's secret call invites [/] To banquet with the Lamb.]]
2. [[We see our kind supporter's hand [/] And joyfully adore,
And hastning to the heavenly land [/] We send our hearts before.]]
3. [[Jesus shall there our hearts secure, [/] And keep our life above,
As sure as Christ is God, as sure [/] As Christ our God is love.]]
4. [[And when he has prepared our place, [/] Our Lord again shall come,
Come Lord and show thy glorious face, [/] And look thy pilgrims home.]]

XI.⁶⁴

- [1.] [[Holy Lamb who thee confess [/] Followers of thy holiness,
Thee they ever keep in view, [/] Ever ask, What shall we do?]]
2. [[Governed by thine only will, [/] All thy Word⁶⁵ we would fulfil,
Would in all thy footsteps go, [/] Walk as Jesus walked below.]]
3. [[While thou didst on earth appear, [/] Servant to thy servants here,
Mindful of thy place above, [/] All thy life was prayer and love.]]
4. [[Such our whole employment be, [/] Works of faith and charity]]

⁶³This hymn was published in *Family Hymns* (1767), 41 (with no variants).

⁶⁴This hymn was published in *Family Hymns* (1767), 41–42, with one variant.

⁶⁵*Family Hymns* changed “Word” to “words.”

- [[Works of love on man bestowed, [/] Secret intercourse with God.]]
5. [[Early in the temple meet [/] Let us still our Maker greet,
Nightly to the mount repair, [/] Join our praying pattern there.]]
 6. [[There by wrestling faith obtain [/] Power to work for God again,
Power his image to retrieve, [/] Power like thee our Lord to live.]]
 7. [[Vessels instruments of grace [/] Pass we thus our happy days
'Twixt the mount and multitude, [/] Doing or receiving good.]]
 8. [[Glad to pray and labour on, [/] Till our earthly course is run,
Till we on the sacred tree [/] Bow the head, and die like thee.]]

XII.⁶⁶

- [1.] [[Come, thou all-inspiring Spirit, [/] Into every longing heart
Bought for us by Jesu's merit [/] Now thy blissful self impart,
Sign our uncontested pardon [/] Wash us in th' atoning blood,
Make our souls a watered garden [/] Fill our sinless souls with God.]]
2. [[If thou gav'st th' enlarged desire [/] Which for thee we ever feel,
Now our panting hearts inspire, [/] Now our canceled sin reveal,
Claim us for thine habitation, [/] Dwell within our hallowed breast,]]

⁶⁶This hymn was published in *Family Hymns* (1767), 42–43, with two variants.

[[Seal us heirs of full salvation [/] Fit us⁶⁷ for our heavenly rest.]]

3. [[Give us quietly to tarry [/] Till for all thy glory meet,
Waiting like attentive Mary, [/] Happy at her⁶⁸ Saviour's feet;
Keep us from the world unspotted, [/] From all earthly passions free,
Wholly to thyself devoted, [/] Fixt to live and die for thee.]]
4. [[Wrestling on in mighty prayer, [/] Lord, we will not let thee go,
Till thou all thy mind declare, [/] All thy grace on us bestow,
Peace the seal of sin forgiven, [/] Joy and perfect love impart,
Present everlasting heaven, [/] All thou hast and all thou art.]]

⁶⁷*Family Hymns* changed “fit us” to “fitted.”

⁶⁸*Family Hymns* changed “her” to “our.”

[Pages 27–32 are left blank in this manuscript]

*⁶⁹**For Purity**⁷⁰

- [1.] [[God of uncreated love [/] God of spotless purity,
Send thine image from above, [/] Breathe thy Spirit into me,
Purge mine evil heart from sin, [/] Make my lep'rous⁷¹ nature clean.]]
2. [[Smiting this polluted breast, [/] For thy purity I groan,
Never shall my spirit rest, [/] Till with thine entirely one,
Till in holy love renewed, [/] Sin I loath and cleave to God.]]
3. [[O how distant from my hope, [/] How unlike my God am I!
Yet thy grace to me can stoop, [/] Yet thy blood can sanctify,
Let it now my soul o'erflow,⁷² [/] Wash the leper white as snow.]]⁷³
4. [[Jesu,⁷⁴ full of balmy grace [/] Now thy virtuous power exert,
Foulest of the fallen⁷⁵ race, [/] Lo I offer thee my heart,
Form it Lord averse from sin, [/] Cleanse the house by ent'ring in.]]
5. [[By th' indwelling God restored [/] To my pure original state,
I shall never grieve my Lord, [/] Never do the thing I hate,
I shall all thy ways approve, [/] Love thee with a perfect love.]]
6. [[Come then oh my heart's desire, [/] Strength'ning me t' abide thy day, [/] Sit as a refiner's fire
Thoroughly purge my dross away, [/] All my creature-love consume, [/] Come, my utmost Saviour,
come!]]

⁶⁹CW inserted this asterisk at the top of several hymns that follow; its purpose is unclear.

⁷⁰A longhand copy of this hymn in CW's hand appears in MS Miscellaneous Hymns, 81–82. The longhand version was published posthumously in *Unpublished Poetry*, 3:163–64.

⁷¹MS Miscellaneous Hymns has “inmost” instead of “lep'rous.”

⁷²MS Miscellaneous Hymns has “inflow” instead of “o'erflow.”

⁷³MS Miscellaneous Hymns has “Make me as my Lord below.”

⁷⁴MS Miscellaneous Hymns has “Jesus” instead of “Jesu.”

⁷⁵MS Miscellaneous Hymns has “filthy” instead of “fallen.”

* [Written in Uncertainty]⁷⁶

- 1.] [[To what am I reserved? Great God, [/] The counsel of thy will display,
Nor let me underneath the load [/] Of anxious doubt forever stay.]]
2. [[Thou seest I cannot journey on, [/] Till thou the ling'ring cloud remove,
And make the destined action known, [/] And lead me by the fire of love.]]
3. [[My every choice desire design [/] I now implicitly submit,
My will is fixed to follow thine, [/] And lies indifferent at thy feet.]]
4. [[Parties and sects I now forego, [/] From all their schemes and systems free:
After the flesh no more I know [/] Those dearest souls thou gav'st to me.]]
5. [[Loosed and detached I cease from man, [/] Opinions, names are clean forgot,
This all my aim, and all my plan, [/] To do, and be, I know not what.]]
6. [[But wilt thou not at last appear, [/] Make darkness light before my face,
And crooked straight and doubtful clear, [/] And show and shine on all my ways?]]
7. [[Who on thine only truth depend, [/] Who thee mine only Master own,
To me thou wilt thy Spirit send, [/] And govern me thyself alone.]]
8. [[Thy wisdom and thy power shall join [/] T' effectuate what thy love decrees,
My work and place and friends assign, [/] And crown the whole with full success.]]

⁷⁶This hymn was published in *Family Hymns* (1767), 159–60; the title is taken from there.

* II. [Written in Uncertainty]⁷⁷

- [1.] My Lord and God,⁷⁸ thy counsel show, [/] What wouldst thou have thy servant do
Before I hence depart? [/] How shall I serve thy church, and where?
The thing the time the means declare, [/] And teach my list'ning heart.]]
2. [[Thrust out from them I served so long, [/] I dare not strive against the wrong,
But silently resign. [/] The charge I never could forsake,
And give my dearest children back [/] Into the hands divine.]]
3. [[Where first I preached thy⁷⁹ word of grace, [/] If now I have no longer place,
By my own flesh unknown, [/] Thy secret hand in all I see,
Thy will be done, whate'er it be, [/] Thy only⁸⁰ will be done.]]
4. [[Free for whate'er thy love ordains, [/] I offer up my life's remains
To be for thee employed; [/] My little strength can little do,
Yet would I in thy service true [/] Devote it all to God.]]
5. [[Wilt thou not, Lord, my offer take? [/] Canst thou in feeble⁸¹ age forsake
The creature of thy will? [/] My strength is spent in the best cause,
Thy zealous messenger I was. [/] I am thy servant still.]]
6. [[Master, be thou my might my mouth, [/] And send me forth to north or south,
To farthest east or west. [/] Be thou my guide to worlds unknown,]]

⁷⁷This hymn was published in *Family Hymns* (1767), 160–62, with the revisions noted below.

⁷⁸*Family Hymns* inverted to read “My God and Lord.”

⁷⁹*Family Hymns* changed “thy” to “the.”

⁸⁰*Family Hymns* changed “only” to “welcome.”

⁸¹*Family Hymns* changed “feeble” to “helpless.”

[[Rest to my flesh I covet none, [/] But give my spirit rest.]]

7. [[My rest on earth to toil for thee, [/] My whole delight and business be
To minister thy word, [/] For thee immortal souls to win,
And make the wretched slaves of sin [/] The freemen of my Lord.]]
8. [[Witness and messenger of peace [/] I only languish to decrease
In trumpeting thy name, [/] I only live to preach thy death,
And publish with my latest breath [/] The glories of the Lamb.]]

*** III. [Written in Uncertainty]⁸²**

- [1.] [[O thou with whom unfelt unseen [/] Still in the desert I abide,
Look through the low'ring cloud between, [/] And show thyself my heavenly guide.]]
2. [[Out of the fire of chast'ning love [/] Send forth one kind instructive ray,
And give the signal to remove, [/] And kindle darkness into day.]]
3. [[Till thou thy secret will declare, [/] And shine in pure unerring light
I groan with all thy church to bear [/] The burden of incumbent night.]]
4. [[For thee, not without hope, we mourn, [/] For thee in calm dependence wait,
Assured thou wilt at last return, [/] And raise us to our first estate.]]

⁸²This hymn was published in *Family Hymns* (1767), 162–63, with the revisions noted below.

5. [[The dark apostacy shall end, [/] The Babel of religions cease,
The church shall with her Head ascend, [/] And quit the⁸³ howling wilderness:]]
6. [[Shall yet again thy tokens see, [/] Behold thy glorious presence shine
And prove from sin and doubt set free, [/] The good the perfect will divine.]]
7. [[That God-revealing Spirit of grace [/] Thou wilt in all his fulness pour,⁸⁴
And never more conceal thy face, [/] And never chide thy people more.]]⁸⁵
8. [[But who the kingdom shall behold, [/] Who, when the Lord doth this, shall live?
“I will come back” (my heart he told) [/] “And thee unto myself receive.”]]⁸⁶
9. [[So be it oh my God my Lord, [/] In whom I stedfastly confide,
I trust the sure inspoken word, [/] And patient by thy cross abide.]]
10. [[For all who thine appearing love, [/] For me thou hast prepared a place,
And I shall meet thee from above, [/] And I shall see thy glorious⁸⁷ face.]]
11. [[Whether thy will ordain my stay [/] To see thy general kingdom come,
Or snatch me from the evil day, [/] And take my gasping spirit home.]]
12. [[Happy, if with my best-beloved [/] I live to share the gospel-feast,
But happier still, if now removed, [/] I find my everlasting rest.]]

⁸³*Family Hymns* changed “the” to “this.”

⁸⁴*Family Hymns* changed “pour” to “give.”

⁸⁵*Family Hymns* changed the last line to: “And never more thy people leave.”

⁸⁶Cf. John 14:3.

⁸⁷*Family Hymns* changed “glorious” to “open.”

13. [[Wherefore with meekest awe to thee [/] My time my life my all I leave,
Eternal wisdom choose for me, [/] And when and as thou wilt receive.]]
14. [[Or come in perfect light and love, [/] To me to all thy people given,
Or come thy servant to remove, [/] And take me to thyself in heaven.]]

**[[On the Death of Mrs. Ann Wigginton]]⁸⁸
[[April]] 24, 1757.**

[Part I.]⁸⁹

- [1.] [[What shall we say? It is the Lord, [/] His name be praised, his will be done!
Bereaved by his revoking word, [/] We meekly render him his own,
And faultless mourn our partner fled, [/] Our friend removed, our Dorcas dead.]]
2. [[A Christian good without pretence, [/] A widow by her works approved,
A saint indeed is summoned hence [/] To triumph with her best beloved,
In whom she found acceptance here, [/] And showed her faith by humble fear.]]
3. [[By works of righteousness she showed [/] The gracious principle within,
By reverence for the things of God, [/] By deadness to the world and sin,
By laying up her wealth above, [/] By all the toils of patient love.]]
4. [[Memorial of her faith unfeigned, [/] As incense sweet, before the throne,]]

⁸⁸Ebenezer (d. 1745) and Ann (Bundy) Wigginton were a Quaker family in Bristol that CW drew into the early revival. On Oct. 26, 1739 Charles baptized Ebenezer Wigginton (see *MS Journal*).

⁸⁹This two-part hymn is published in *Funeral Hymns* (1759), 31–34, with scattered revisions as shown below.

[[Did not her prayers and alms ascend, [/] And bring the heavenly herald down
Did she not for the preacher call [/] With news of pard'ning grace for all?]]

5. [[What though she in the desert pined, [/] And languished for the light in vain,
Her soul obedient and resigned, [/] Did darkly safe with God remain,
Who led his trembling servant on, [/] And blessed her in a path unknown.]]
6. [[Unconscious of the grace received, [/] She mourned as destitute of grace
A pattern to believers lived, [/] And laboured on with even pace,
Possess of Martha's better part, [/] And Mary's hands and Lydia's heart.]]⁹⁰
7. [[No noisy self-deceiver she, [/] No boaster vain of faith untried,
Her own good works she could not see, [/] But did, and cast them all aside⁹¹
And when her useful course⁹² was run, [/] Complained she never yet begun.]]

[[Part]] II.

- [1.] [[Soon as the warning angel came, [/] That called her up to worlds on high,
Meek as a death-devoted lamb, [/] Yet starting, as unfit to die,
Her nature's frailty she confest, [/] And sunk upon her Saviour's breast.]]
2. [[He owned the soul so dearly loved, [/] And cutting short his work of grace,
Her sins insensibly removed, [/] Made meet at once to see his face,
And lo! Her latest fears are o'er, / And pain and suffering is no more.]]

⁹⁰“Martha” and “Mary” are reversed in placement in *Funeral Hymns*.

⁹¹*Funeral Hymns* changed “good works” to “good deeds,” and “But did” to “But wrought.”

⁹²*Funeral Hymns* changed “useful course” to “glorious race.”

3. [[One only labour yet remains [/] Her genuine faith to justify,
One only care the spirit detains [/] When winged and ready for the sky,
That agony of love unknown, [/] That cry in death, “My son, my son!”]]
4. [[Can she her sucking child forget [/] In travail for his soul so long?
Discharging nature’s double debt, [/] She warns him with a fault’ring tongue,
She wins him by her latest breath, [/] The mother of his soul in death.]]
5. [[By all the powers of love pursued, [/] To Christ with holy violence driven,
She claims him for the Saviour God, [/] She turns and lifts his heart to heaven
In faith’s almighty arms she bears, [/] And crowns her counsels with her prayers.]]
6. [[In vain her strength and language fail, [/] Speechless she urges her request,
She will with the God-man prevail: [/] And now of all her wish possess,
Smiling she looks him back the praise, [/] And heaven is opened in her face.]]
7. [[Those heavenly looks⁹³ distinctly tell [/] The rapt’rous bliss her spirit feels,
The glorious joy unspeakable [/] Which Christ to dying saints reveals,
The sight which none can here conceive, [/] The sight, which none can see and live.]]
8. [[Like Moses on the mountain laid [/] With longing looks, and ravished eyes,
She sees the Saviour’s arms displayed, [/] She sees his open face, and dies,
Drops at his kiss her⁹⁴ mortal clod, [/] And plunges in the depths of God.]]

⁹³*Funeral Hymns* changed “looks” to “smiles.”

⁹⁴*Funeral Hymns* changed “her” to “the.”

**[[On the Death of Mrs. Mary Naylor]]⁹⁵
[[March]] 21, 1757.**

[Part I.]⁹⁶

- 1.] [[But is the hasty spirit fled, [/] But hath my friend inclined her head
And laid her burden down? [/] Dead, dead to man, to God she lives
And from her Saviour's hands receives [/] The never-fading crown.]]
2. [[Away my tears, and selfish sighs, [/] The happy saint in paradise
Requires us not to mourn, [/] But rather keep her life in view,
And still her shining steps pursue, [/] Till all to God return.]]
3. [[[Her life⁹⁷] from outward evil free [/] From every gross enormity
Her life of nature was: [/] Harmless she passed her time to play,
Stranger to Christ, the living way, [/] Regardless of his cross.]]
4. [[But when she heard the gospel-sound, [/] The seed received in the good ground,
The heart ingrafted word [/] Produced an hundred-fold increase,
And joined to Jesu's witnesses [/] She gloried in her Lord.]]
5. [[With joy she flew her all to sell, [/] Borne on the wings of rapid zeal,
Impatient of delay, [/] Away she cast with eager strife,
Kindred and friends and more than life, [/] She cast her fame away.]]
6. [[Where Satan keeps his gaudy throne, [/] Firm as the righteous Lot, alone
Against the world she stood, [/] The cross endured, the shame despised,]]

⁹⁵Charles Wesley was instrumental to the conversion of Mary Naylor (1713–57) in Oct. 1745, and they became close friends. Although Mary never married, as an older “spinster” she was by custom referred to as “Mrs.”

⁹⁶This six-part hymn was published in *Funeral Hymns* (1759), 49–59.

⁹⁷“Her life” is missing in the shorthand; added in *Funeral Hymns* to preserve metre.

[[And only sought, and only prized [/] The praise that comes from God.]]

7. [[When men and fiends against her rose, [/] Could all her fierce opprobrious foes
Her steadfast faith o’erturn? [/] A follower of the patient Lamb,
The hatred she with love o’ercame, [/] And triumphed o’er⁹⁸ the scorn.]]
8. [[Her solid piety unfeigned [/] A witness from her foes obtained,
And forced them to confess, [/] Where faith appears with virtue crowned,
Religion pure on earth is found, [/] And all her paths are peace.]]

[Part] II.

- [1.] [[Long in those peaceful pleasant ways [/] She walked, she run the Christian race
With never-slack’ning care, [/] Studious her talents to improve,
She lived a life of faith and love [/] Of holiness and prayer.]]
2. [[The weight’er matters of the law [/] With single eye she clearly saw,
Nor overlooked the less, [/] Her tithes of mint she gladly paid,
But the main stress on mercy laid [/] And truth and righteousness.]]
3. [[The golden rule she still pursued [/] And did to others as she would
Others should do to her; [/] Justice composed her upright soul,
Justice did all her thoughts control [/] And formed her character.]]
4. [[Her morals oh thou bleeding Lamb, [/] Forth from that open fountain came,]]

⁹⁸*Funeral Hymns* changed “o’er” to “in.”

- [[That wounded side of thine! [/] Thy love of equity she caught,
Thy Spirit in her spirit wrought [/] The righteousness divine.]]
5. [[Thenceforth an Israelite indeed, [/] By childlike innocency led,
And ignorant of art, [/] See her integrity approved,
To God and man, the truth she loved, [/] And spoke it from her heart.]]
6. [[To falsehood an eternal foe, [/] The fair pretence, the specious show,
The gross and coloured lie, [/] Darkness she never put for light,
Evil for good, or wrong for right, [/] Or fraud for piety.]]
7. [[Through all her words the soul within, [/] The honest, artless soul was seen,
Ingenuous pure and free, [/] Candour and love were sweetly joined
With easy nobleness of mind, [/] And true simplicity.]]
8. [[Inspired with godliness sincere [/] She had her conversation here,
No guile in her was found, [/] Cheerful and open as the light
She dwelt in her own people's sight [/] And gladdened all around.]]

[Part] III.

- [1.] [[Mercy that heaven-descending guest, [/] Resided in her gentle breast,
And full possession kept; [/] While listening to the orphan's moan,
And echoing back the widow's groan, [/] She wept with them that wept.]]

2. [[Affliction poverty disease, [/] Drew out her soul in soft distress
The wretched to relieve, [/] In all the works of love employed
Her sympathizing soul enjoyed [/] The blessedness to give.]]
3. [[Her Saviour in his members seen, [/] A stranger she received him in,
An hungry Jesus fed, [/] Tended her sick imprisoned Lord,
And flew in all his wants t' afford [/] Her ministerial aid.]]
4. [[A nursing mother to the poor, [/] For them she husbanded her store,
For them her life bestowed,⁹⁹ [/] For them she laboured day and night,
In doing good her whole delight, [/] In copying after God.]]
5. [[But did she then herself conceal [/] From her own flesh, Or kindly feel
Their every want and woe; [/] 'Tis Corban this she never said,
But dealt alike her sacred bread [/] To feed both friend and foe.]]
6. [[Free from the busy worldling's cares [/] Who gathers riches for his heirs,
Who hoards what God hath given; [/] Fast as the Lord her basket blessed,
Fast as her well-got wealth increased, [/] She laid it up in heaven.]]
7. [[Witness ye servants of her Lord, [/] Ye preachers of the joyous word,
Constrained with her t' abide! [/] With Lydia's open house and heart,
Glad of her carnal things t' impart, [/] She all your wants supplied.]]

⁹⁹*Funeral Hymns* changed this line to "Her life, her all bestowed."

8. [[Surely ye judged her faithful then: [/] And did she not through life remain
Invariably the same? [/] Her even soul to heaven aspired,
The only mind of Christ desired, [/] The tempers of the Lamb.]]

[Part] IV.

- [1.] [[Though envy foul its poison shed, [/] To blast the venerable dead,
With base reproach to load, [/] She did not lose her pious pains,
Her judgment with her Lord remains, [/] Her work is with her God.]]
2. [[She never left her former love, [/] Her zeal or boldness to reprove
Insolent¹⁰⁰ wickedness, [/] Since first she knew the crucified,
She never cast her shield aside, [/] Or forfeited her peace.]]
3. [[Constant, unwarped from first to last, [/] She kept the faith and held it fast,
From sin and error free, [/] Contending for the faith alone,
The name inscribed in the white stone, [/] The life of piety.]]
4. [[While others spent their strength for nought, [/] For trifles she no longer fought,
For human rules or rites. [/] Her soul the shibboleths maintained,
By rigid novices disdained,¹⁰¹ [/] And smooth-tongued hypocrites.]]
5. [[With ease her quick-discerning eyes [/] Looked through the soft and thin disguise
The meek and humble veil, [/] Beneath the superficial grace]]

¹⁰⁰*Funeral Hymns* changed “Insolent” to “Triumphant.”

¹⁰¹*Funeral Hymns* reversed the placement of “maintained” and “disdained” in lines 4–5.

[[She knew the lurking fiend to trace, [/] The rage and pride of hell.]]

6. [[Yet neither earth nor hell could move [/] Her firm unconquerable love
To Jesus and his flock, [/] Her faith did all assaults endure,
And stood like its foundation sure [/] Established on a rock.]]
7. [[She loved, but leaned no more on man, [/] A broken reed an helper vain,
People and ministers [/] Men of like passions she beheld,
Their faults and weaknesses concealed, [/] And helped them by her prayers.]]
8. [[Their Master she revered in them, [/] With grateful love and high esteem
Rejoiced their work to own, [/] But only Christ her Lord allowed,
And with entire devotion bowed [/] To Jesu's name alone.]]

[Part] V.

- [1.] [[Free from that partial blind respect, [/] Which marks the favourite of a sect,
Implicitly resigned, [/] With others eyes she scorned to see
And stretched her arms of charity [/] Ingrasping all mankind.]]
2. [[In love and every grace she grew, [/] As nearer her departure drew,
The active restless soul [/] From strength to greater strength went on,
Swifter and swifter still she run [/] To reach the heavenly goal.]]

3. [[She lived a burning shining light, [/] With never-fading lustre bright,
With never-cooling love, [/] Meet for the infinite reward
Expecting to receive her Lord [/] And Bridegroom from above.]]
4. [[He came, and warned her to depart, [/] He knocked at her attentive heart
And fitted for the sky [/] She opened to her welcome guest,
With eager instantaneous haste [/] She gat her up, to die.]]
5. [[To die her only business then, [/] The meed of all her toils to gain;
Made ready long before [/] She flies to lay her body down,
And pain and sin and grief are gone, [/] And suffering is no more.]]
6. [[Nothing, she cries, can shake my peace, [/] My body or my soul distress
Or tempt me once to fear, [/] My full salvation is wrought out,
I cannot mourn I cannot doubt, [/] For Christ and heaven is here.]]
7. [[Not in my helpless self I trust, [/] But on my faithful Lord and just
In life and death depend, [/] Secure of everlasting bliss,
Into those gracious hands of his [/] My spirit I commend.]]
8. [[She speaks, and bows her willing head [/] She sinks among the mortal¹⁰² dead,
Without a ling'ring groan, [/] Meek as the Lamb of God departs,
And carries up our bleeding hearts [/] To that eternal throne.]]

¹⁰²*Funeral Hymns* changed “the mortal” to “th’ immortal.”

[Part] VI.

- [1.] [[There with the virgin choir she sits, [/] And Jesus her appeal admits
From man's unrighteous bar, [/] He kept her faithful unto death
And with a never-fading wreath [/] Reward[s] his servant there.]]
2. [[Go envious fiend, and force her down, [/] Go pluck the jewels from her crown,
And lessen her reward. [/] Pollute by thy opprobrious praise
Or tear her from that blissful place, [/] Or part her from her Lord.]]
3. [[The sacrilegious hope is vain [/] Her spotless purity to stain,
Her heavenly joy t' impair, [/] The saint whom erring saints disown
Shall smile on a superior throne, [/] And brighter glories wear.]]
4. [[Yes happy soul so closely prest [/] On earth in heaven to Jesus' breast,
With him thou reign'st above, [/] Beyond our censure or our praise
Inthroned where purest seraphs gaze [/] In all the heights of love.]]
5. [[How far below thy dazzling sphere [/] Shall all thy blushing foes appear,
If finally forgiven! [/] O might thy censurers and I
Obtain the grace like thee to die, [/] And kiss thy feet in heaven.]]
6. [[Saviour regard my vehement prayer [/] Who only canst my loss repair
And solid comfort send, [/] Send down thy likeness from above,]]

- [[And in the spirit¹⁰³ of meekest love [/] O give me back my friend.]]
7. [[I loved her for thy sake alone, [/] For on her soul thine image shone.
Ah wouldst thou Lord impress [/] The heavenly character on mine,
And fill my heart with peace divine, [/] And joy and righteousness.]]
 8. [[O might I of thy follower learn [/] The calm and genuine unconcern
For human praise or blame, [/] The patient faith, the even mind,
The love unconquerably kind, [/] The meekness of the Lamb.]]
 9. [[I want to love my foes like her, [/] Nor shrink from Satan's messenger,
Nor turn my face aside, [/] But silently enjoy the loss,
The shame the wrong, and hug the cross [/] With Jesus crucified.]]
 10. [[I want, alas thou know'st my heart, [/] As safe and sudden to depart
As meet thy face to see, [/] I want¹⁰⁴ my happier friend t' o'ertake,
And give my gasping spirit back, [/] And die like her in thee.]]¹⁰⁵

[[**The Thanksgiving**]]¹⁰⁶

- [1.] [[Shout, ye heirs of sure salvation [/] Love's accomplished sacrifice,
See our partner in temptation [/] On the wings of angels flies,
Join the convoy, [/] Swell the triumph of the skies.]]
2. [[He who set his love upon her, [/] Doth for his beloved send,]]

¹⁰³*Funeral Hymns* changed “the spirit” to “that Spirit.”

¹⁰⁴*Funeral Hymns* changed “want” to “groan.”

¹⁰⁵*Funeral Hymns* changed “in thee” to “and thee.”

¹⁰⁶This hymn was published in *Funeral Hymns* (1759), 60–61, where it is identified as also for Mary Naylor.

- [[Crowns her with immortal honour, [/] Glorious joys which¹⁰⁷ never end,
Saints and angels, [/] Praise our everlasting friend.]]
3. [[Christ the friend of sinners bought her, [/] Her and all our ruined race,
Now he up to heaven hath caught her, [/] Now he in her sight displays
All his goodness, [/] All the beauties of his face.]]
4. [[Token of our own translation [/] Her translation we receive,
Earnest of our full salvation [/] While he doth his Spirit give,
Hallelujah! [/] We like her with God shall live.]]
5. [[God our soul's eternal lover [/] Calls us to his courts above,
Round us now our angels hover, [/] Us our guards shall soon remove
There to banquet [/] On his everlasting love.]]
6. [[Haste ye ministerial spirits, [/] Thither bear us on your wings,
Where our friend her crown inherits, [/] Where our old companion sings,
Bows to Jesus, [/] King of all the heavenly kings.]]
7. [[Jesus, now assume thy power, [/] Alpha and Omega be,¹⁰⁸
Now let every knee adore, [/] Every eye thy kingdom see
With thine ancients [/] Reign to¹⁰⁹ all eternity.]]

¹⁰⁷*Funeral Hymns* changed “which” to “that.”

¹⁰⁸Alpha and Omega are shown as Greek letters, rather than sounded out in shorthand.

¹⁰⁹*Funeral Hymns* changed “to” to “through.”

[[**Another**]] [Thanksgiving¹¹⁰

- [1.] [[She flies! The soul as lightning flies! [/] She mounts exulting to the skies
Beyond the reach of death and pain, [/] And never shall she sin again.]]
2. [[Possessed of that for which alone [/] We daily toil and suffer on
In exile pine, in prison sigh, [/] And languish till allowed to die.]]
3. [[In prayer and praise we lift our voice, [/] In joy lament, in grief rejoice,
By sinking rise, by losing gain, [/] And endless life by death obtain.]]
4. [[This dying life shall soon be past, [/] (A moment cannot always last)
And he who set our partner free [/] Shall quickly send for you and me.]]
5. [[E'en now the heavenly convoy waits, [/] Open ye everlasting gates,
Redeemed from earth escaped from sin, [/] Receive the weary exiles in.]]
6. [[We after our translated friend [/] Out of the wilderness ascend,
Enter into the heavenly rest, [/] And meet her on the Saviour's breast.]]

¹¹⁰This hymn was published in *Funeral Hymns* (1759), 59–60, where it is identified as also for Mary Naylor.

[[**For a Backslider**]]¹¹¹

- [1.] [[Sinners' advocate again [/] I must to thee apply
Vilest of the sons of men [/] The worst of rebels I
To thy mercy-seat draw near, [/] Yet hardly dare thy grace implore,
Bleeding Lamb my conscience clear, [/] And bid me sin no more.]]
2. [[As the caught adulteress, [/] Confounded in thy sight,
Guilty guilty I confess [/] Eternal death my right,
Swallowed up in shame and fear [/] I deprecate thine anger's power,
Bleeding Lamb my conscience clear [/] etc.]]¹¹²
3. [[While the guilt of sin remains, [/] The strength must still abide:
Therefore purge my crimson stains, [/] Pronounce me justified,
That I may with heart sincere [/] With all my life my Lord adore, [/] Bleeding etc.]]
4. [[Well thou know'st I chiefly would [/] Thy pard'ning grace receive,
That my most indulgent God [/] I may no longer grieve,
Never from thy statutes err, [/] Or thwart thy will as heretofore, [/] Bleeding etc.]]
5. [[Happy they whoe'er obtain [/] The sense of sin forgiven,
Peace and joy with faith they gain, [/] They live the life of heaven,
But I want the Comforter [/] To make me meek and chaste and poor [/] etc.]]

¹¹¹A longhand version of the hymn in CW's hand appears in MS Miscellaneous Hymns, 34–36. This shorthand copy incorporates corrections noted in the longhand, and adds one variant reading. The longhand version was published posthumously in *Unpublished Poetry*, 3:256–58.

¹¹²I.e., in each stanza repeat the full last line.

6. [[Pardon less than power I want, [/] Than purity within,
Holy God, thy nature plant [/] The antidote of sin,
By thy hallowing Spirit cheer, [/] Thy kingdom to my soul restore, [/] Bleeding Lamb etc.]]
7. [[If the strength and joy of grace [/] Can ever parted be,
O¹¹³ withhold the happiness, [/] But give the power to me,
Let me mourn and suffer here, [/] Till pain and life at once are o'er, [/] Bleeding etc.]]
8. [[Tost on life's tempestuous wave [/] I ever cry to thee,
Ready if thou art to save, [/] Rebuke the winds and sea,
Thou this shattered vessel steer [/] In safety to th' eternal shore, [/] Bleeding etc.]]
9. [[Might I now to heaven repair, [/] Thy face I could not see,
Heaven, if sin pursued me there, [/] Would be no heaven to me
Sinai's trump I there should hear, [/] And tremble while its thunders roar, [/] etc.]]
10. [[Lord, I will not let thee rest, [/] Till I the blessing find
Of the precious pearl possess [/] The pure un¹¹⁴sinning mind,
Author, end of faith appear, [/] And bless me with the perfect power
Bleeding Lamb, my nature clear, [/] And bid me live no more.]]

¹¹³MS Miscellaneous Hymns has "Still" instead of "O."

¹¹⁴Orig., "celestial."

[“What must I do to be saved?” Acts 16:30.]¹¹⁵

- [1.] [[O thou who dost not put to pain [/] The creatures of thy will,
Why am I thus, a wretched man, [/] An helpless sinner still?
Forever struggling to get¹¹⁶ free, [/] Why am I yet a slave,
If saved indeed I fain would be, [/] And thou art near to save?]]
2. [[Out of the deep of inbred woe [/] To thee my God I cry,
And ask the hind’ring thing to know [/] And urge thee to reply.
Able if now to make me clean, [/] If now thou willing¹¹⁷ art,
Why am I unredeemed from sin, [/] And unrenewed in heart?]]
3. [[Dost thou withhold thy pard’ning love, [/] Thy sanctifying grace,
My old backslidings to reprove, [/] [My]¹¹⁸ past unfaithfulness,
My hasty vehement spirit to break,¹¹⁹ [/] Dost thou thy help defer,
Or force¹²⁰ me thus to knock, and seek, [/] And ask in ceaseless¹²¹ prayer?]]
4. [[Is there some cursed thing unknown [/] From which I would¹²² not part,
A bar which nature fears to own, [/] An idol in my heart?
Some base reserve, some bosom-lust [/] Thou knowst if yet I have,
Which makes me secretly mistrust [/] Thy readiness to save.]]

¹¹⁵A manuscript copy of this hymn, in JW’s hand, survives at MARC (MA 1977/157, JW III.8), with only a couple of variant readings. A longhand version in CW’s hand appears in MS Miscellaneous Hymns, 37–40, with more variants. The title is shown as in MS Miscellaneous Hymns.

¹¹⁶Orig., “be.”

¹¹⁷MS Miscellaneous Hymns has “willing now thou” instead of “now thou willing.”

¹¹⁸Orig., “Thy,” but no replacement given, so inserted “My” from MS Miscellaneous Hymns.

¹¹⁹MARC, MA 1977/157, JW III.8 has “own impatient” instead of “hasty, vehement.”

¹²⁰MS Miscellaneous Hymns has “And leave” instead of “Or force.”

¹²¹MS Miscellaneous Hymns has “fruitless” instead of “ceaseless.”

¹²²MS Miscellaneous Hymns has “will” instead of “would.”

5. [[Surely I would in thee believe, [/] I own thee good and true,
Thou art almighty to forgive [/] Almighty to renew.
Thou canst into my soul derive [/] Such purity and power,
That I with sin no more shall strive, [/] Shall yield to sin no more.]]
6. [[Thou canst my inbred foe expel, [/] Its last remains erase,¹²³
Hallow my sinless soul, and seal, [/] With persevering grace:
Thou canst my sinless soul assure [/] That I shall ne'er remove,
But faithful unto death endure, [/] And reign with thee above.]]
7. [[And can I doubt thy gracious will [/] To save and sanctify,
My every soul-disease to heal, [/] And¹²⁴ every want supply?
Thou waitest now to show thy grace, [/] My burden to remove,
For all thy mind is tenderness, [/] And all thy heart is love.]]
8. [[What hinders then, I still inquire, [/] And in thy name believe:
The thing I ask, expect, desire, [/] Why do I not receive?
I hunger after righteousness, [/] I gasp for purity:
Yet oh my God I must confess [/] The bar is all in me.]]
9. [[Confounded and condemned I am, [/] I sink despairing down,
In darkness ignorance and shame [/] Before the God unknown]]

¹²³MARC, MA 1977/157, JW III.8 has “remove,” then suggests “erase” as an alternative.

¹²⁴MS Miscellaneous Hymns has “My” instead of “And.”

[[The thing which keeps me dark and blind, [/] And void of holy love,
I cannot by my wisdom find, [/] Or by my strength remove.]]

10. [[But oh whate'er obstructs thy will, [/] Whate'er thy work delays,
Almighty God of love reveal, [/] And scatter by thy grace.
Work in me both to will and do [/] According to thy word,
In perfect holiness renew [/] And make me as my Lord.]]
11. [[Till thou create me pure within, [/] Assist me, Lord, to pray
The guilt the power the root of sin [/] Forever take away.]]¹²⁵

¹²⁵MS Miscellaneous Hymns has "Destroy and" instead of "Forever." It also adds two lines to complete this stanza.

[[On the Death of Westley Hall; Aged 14]]¹²⁶

- [1.] [[Where is the fair Elysian flower [/] The blooming youth that charmed our eyes?
Cut down and withered in an hour, [/] But now transplanted to the skies,
He triumphs o'er the mouldring tomb, [/] He blossoms in eternal bloom.]]
2. [[Nor did he perish immature [/] Who starting won the shortened¹²⁷ race:
Unspotted from the world and pure, [/] And saved and sanctified by grace,
The child fulfils his hundred years, [/] And ripe before his God appears.]]
3. [[Witness his one extreme desire [/] To live, if spared, for God alone
But rather with that¹²⁸ tuneful choir, [/] To join the souls around the throne,
He grasps on earth the prize above, [/] And all his soul is prayer and love.]]
4. [[When reason fled the rack of pain, [/] Love still defied the torturer's power,
Love deathless love doth still remain, [/] And consecrates his final¹²⁹ hour,
And wafts him to his native place, [/] And crowns his brow with golden rays.]]
5. [[Ascending to that world of light, [/] He quits our dreary vale of death,
But drops his mantle in his flight, [/] His blessing on his friends beneath
Thrice happy, if his virtues heirs, [/] If given to his dying prayers.]]
6. [[Happy whoe'er his wants supplied, [/] Or served an heir of glory here,
Happy the souls to thine allied, [/] That saw their shining pattern near,
Happy the mates thou leav'st below, [/] If wise with thee their God to know.]]

¹²⁶Westley Hall Jr., the nephew of CW, died in Sept. 1757. This shorthand copy comprises only Part I of a two-part hymn published in *Funeral Hymns* (1759); this Part on pp. 18–19.

¹²⁷*Funeral Hymns* changed “shortened” to “short-lived.”

¹²⁸*Funeral Hymns* changed “that” to “the.”

¹²⁹*Funeral Hymns* changed “final” to “dying.”

7. [[But chiefly blest the womb that bare, [/] The paps that nursed a child like thee,¹³⁰
A child of providence and prayer, [/] Ordained his Father's face to see,
T' enjoy his love, to chant his praise [/] In rapturous, everlasting lays.]]
8. [[Tis done, the soul is entered there, [/] Where kindred saints and angels join.
We cast away our mournful care, [/] We bow and bless the will divine,
Let God resume whom God had given, [/] And take us after him to heaven.]]

¹³⁰Orig., "thine."

[[For Christian Fellowship]]¹³¹

- [1.] [[Prophet, sent from God above [/] To teach his perfect will,
Lo we wait to learn thy love [/] We tremble, and are still
To thy guidance we submit, [/] All our souls to thee we bow,
See us sitting at thy feet: [/] Speak Lord, we hear thee now.]]
2. [[From the idle babler man [/] Behold we turn away,
Trample on the fairest plan [/] That human wit can lay,
Foolish are we still and blind, [/] Till the truth itself impart,
Chase the darkness from our mind, [/] And shine within our heart.]]
3. [[What avails the creature's strife [/] When thou and only thou
Hast the words of endless life [/] (O could I hear them now!)
Mighty thou in word and deed, [/] Thou our only teacher be,
Thou, by thine¹³² anointing, lead [/] The¹³³ soul that seeks to thee.]]
4. [[We from outward things withdraw, [/] No help in them is found,
At thy mouth we seek the law, [/] We listen for the sound
Which shall all our griefs control, [/] Empty us at once and fill,
Calm the tempest in our soul, [/] And bid the sea be still.]]
5. [[Ah my Lord, if thou art near [/] And knockest at the door
Let us now our prophet hear, [/] And keep thee out no more:
Be revealed thou heavenly guest [/] To consume the man of sin,
Take possession of our breast, [/] Come in my Lord come in!]]

¹³¹This is a revised form of the hymn “Waiting for Christ the Prophet” in *HSP* (1742), 207–08. The main revision running throughout the hymn (and not annotated on each instance) is changing most single person pronouns (I, me, my) to plural (we, us, our); and matching verbs, etc. to fit.

¹³²Shorthand follows the 2nd edn. of *HSP* (1742; pub. 1745) in changing “thy” to “thine.”

¹³³*HSP* had “A soul” instead of “The soul.”

[For Christian Fellowship]¹³⁴

- [1.] [[Christ, my hidden life appear, [/] Soul of our inmost soul,
Light of life, the mourners cheer, [/] And make the wounded¹³⁵ whole.
Now in us thyself display, [/] Surely thou in all things art,
We from all things turn away [/] To seek thee in our heart.]]
2. [[Open Lord our inward ear, [/] And bid our hearts rejoice,
Bid our quiet spirits hear [/] Thy comfortable voice,
Never in the whirlwind found [/] Or where earthquakes rock the place,
Still and silent is the sound [/] The whisper of thy grace.]]
3. [[From the world of sin and noise [/] And hurry we withdraw,
For the small and inward voice [/] we wait with humble awe.
Silent are we now and still, [/] Dare not in thy presence move,
To our waiting soul reveal [/] The secret of thy love.]]
4. [[Thou hast undertook for me, [/] For us to death wast sold,
Wisdom in a mystery [/] Of bleeding love unfold,
Teach the lesson of thy cross, [/] Let us die with thee to reign,
All things let us count but loss [/] So we may thee regain.]]
5. [[Show us as our souls can bear [/] The depth of inbred sin,
All the unbelief declare, [/] The pride that lurks within,
Take us whom thyself hast bought, [/] Bring into captivity
Every high aspiring thought [/] That would not stoop to thee.]]

¹³⁴This is a revised form of the hymn a second hymn titled “Waiting for Christ the Prophet” in *HSP* (1742), 208–10. Again, the main revision (not annotated on each instance) is changing most single person pronouns (I, me, my) to plural (we, us, our); and matching verbs, etc. to fit.

¹³⁵*HSP* had “sinner” instead of “wounded.”

6. [[Lord our time is in thy hand, [/] Our souls to thee convert,
Thou canst make us understand, [/] Though we are slow of heart.
Thine in whom we live and move, [/] Thine the work the praise is thine,
Thou art wisdom power and love, [/] And all thou art is mine.]]

- 7.¹³⁶ [[I will hearken what my Lord, [/] Shall say concerning me.
Hast thou not a gracious word [/] For one that waits on thee?
Speak it to my soul that I [/] May in thee have peace and power
Never from my Saviour fly, [/] And never grieve thee more.]]

¹³⁶CW is incorporating the first stanza of a third hymn on “Waiting for Christ the Prophet” in *HSP* (1742), 210–11, as the closing stanza to this hymn.