

may be experienced, even in a congregation, from persons such as those who had been my associates. Eventually, I related all these things to the labourer of the Single Brethren. He advised me to give up all that was in the way, and to dedicate myself to my Saviour, —body, soul and spirit. I earnestly strove to follow this advice, and conferred no more with my natural reason, or with flesh and blood. I threw myself at the feet of the gracious Shepherd, who had so unweariedly followed me; solemnly surrendered myself to Him, and implored Him, for His blood and death's sake, to receive me, to forgive all my transgressions, and to number me among His sheep. I was not suffered to wait long. Again did my compassionate Saviour reveal Himself to my soul, in His suffering form, and give me the assurance of forgiveness. From that time forward, my gracious Saviour led me onward in the way of grace, step by step, till I knew Him as the Bridegroom of my soul. Since then, amid many vicissitudes and a deep conviction of my misery and sinfulness, I have never lost my confidence in Him, and He has remained my guiding star.

In the year 1793, I witnessed the conflagration, by which the largest and best part of the settlement of Gnadenfrey was utterly destroyed. Shortly afterwards, I received a call to Gnadenfeld, where I arrived shortly before the end of the year. At this place, I was appointed to perform several duties, among which was the superintendence of the youths who resided in the Brethren's house. I did my best to perform my duties faithfully, but often failed in the needful ability, and made great mistakes. I have since become convinced, that the duty of a superintendent of youth is as important in its nature, as that of a Missionary among the heathen; since, by good example, by affectionate exhortation, and especially by a simple testimony concerning the love of God to poor sinners, one may be an instrument of much good to these young souls, and prepare them to be useful servants of our dear Saviour.

In the year 1795, a strong impulse, to offer myself for the Mission-service, arose in my mind. I however endeavoured to repress this feeling, from a conviction of my incapacity. Still this idea followed me, so that I had no rest, day or night, and my health began to suffer. At length, I was advised to write to the Unity's Elders' Conference, stating these circumstances. I did so, and then my mind was at rest. But, not long afterwards, I had to undergo some very severe spiritual discipline; the Holy Ghost discovered to me my deep depravity; I found that in me were the germs of all the evils of which we read in Matthew xv. 19, and I feared that I should at last be overcome thereby. My pride was deeply wounded. I wept and prayed; but it seemed as if the Lord would not hear me. Unbelief and doubts, as to the reality of the experience I had enjoyed, that our Saviour had done enough for me, had forgiven my sins, and had taken me to be His child,—seemed on the point of overpowering me. To add to my perplexities, I became somewhat careless of my business; and, to my great distress, soon found myself in debt. So desperate did I become, that I actually thought of selling all I possessed, in order to pay my debts; and then, of leaving the congregation. However, my gracious Shepherd, who had chosen me to be