

6. Boarding School & Sisters' House

(Below): In 1813 - four years before Leonora arrived - there were twenty-four girls in the boarding school, and there was an identical number women in the Sisters' House. Lord Lansdowne's recognition of the work was clearly valued, and the school was open to any who wanted to attend, including non-Moravians. Only three of the students were from the Tytherton Congregation.

Memorabilia 1813
At Malmesbury & Boston the Sunday Schools, begun
in former years, have been continued.
The Girls Boarding School at Tytherton has been in a
pleasing course. The number of Scholars at present is 24.
An improved plan of Education was introduced at the
beginning of the year. Several Visitors of distinction,
among whom were the Marquis & Marchioness of
Lansdown, have visited the School, & expressed their
satisfaction & approbation - Three of the Scholars are
members of the Brethrens Congⁿ.
As some of our Scholars can now play the Organ
at the meetings, a more frequent use of Liturgic
hymns has been introduced in the meetings for the
received members of the Congⁿ.
In May we had the pleasure of an official Visit
from our dear Provincial Helper Mr. Moore, accom-
panied by Mr. Moore. They spoke respectively with the
greater part of our Mem^s & W^ms, & joined in the celebra-
tion of our Congⁿ Anniversary, and the Edwⁿ Festival
of the Widows; also visited at Malmesbury, Christian
Malford & Quat-acre.
The Congⁿ at Tytherton was edified by the testimonies
of the following visiting Mem^s, viz. Moore, Pockman,
Radolph, Reinhardt & Crosby. - Of Mem^s who visited
this Congⁿ we notice here the Mrs. Moore, Pockman,
Pronovels & Swertner.
Our Children have regularly had a meeting for
Instruction in Christian Doctrine on Thursday, which
is likewise attended by the boys & girls who are scholars
with Mr. Cole and his daughter.
The number of Inhabitants in the Sisters house
is at present 24.

(Below): The extract from the *Congregational Diary* for 1816 (a year before Leonora arrives) gives some indication of the numbers, work, and culture of the community. The emphasis on 'resignation' fits in well with the Lutheran influence of Graf (Count) Nikolas von Zinzendorf (1700-60), the Lutheran and Pietist (a spiritual reform movement within Lutheranism which reacted against the rational in favour of inner commitment and experience). The theological tradition of Augustine, Calvin and Luther all stressed that everything that happened was predestined according to God's will.

Bethlehem, & W. Grimes of Springfield
 Our Single Sisters acknowledge with gratitude
 the kindness of our heavenly Father, in causing them
 to be supplied during the present difficult times, with
 sufficient employment in needle-work. The S. Pr
 Cath. West

Memorabilia 1816
 Catherine West, one of the poor & aged inhabitants
 of the Sisters' house, was called to eternal rest
 after being afflicted many years with great bodily pains,
 having thro' grace exhibited an edifying example of
 christian patience & resignation. The number of
 Sisters & girls dwelling together as a family is
 at present 24.
 The prosperity of the Girls Boarding School is
 another subject for Thanksgiving. The number of
 Boarders during the last quarter is 25

(Below): Leonora joins the Moravian Girls' School, 1820 (age about 12 years):

2, 13 Miss Leonora Carr conducted by Miss Hobbs of
 Frenchay near Bristol, came to our School.

(Below): Diana Ormond, Housekeeper of the Girls' School, has the duty of seeing that the girls
 (including Leonora) get to meetings and to bed on time! (Saturday, 23rd September, 1815)

Jan 11. 1815
 regular wages as Assistant to the
 for the first year. Mrs Ormond & Collins are to join the meetings
 with the scholars after School-hours, & to accompany them to the meetings
 and in going to bed.

(Below): Sister Diana Ormond, housekeeper of the Girls' School, dies a month before Leonora.

April 6th 1837.

Sung - The enjoyment of N^o 1's flesh & blood, &c.

1. Read the 2 last Min.
2. On March 13th departed happily the life of Diana Ormond, in her 74th Yr, after a long period of bodily infirmity. She had been for many Yrs engaged as Housekeeper in our Girls' Sch. - Her remains were interred on the 18th. -

(Below): January, 19th, 1825, Leonora is first rejected (probably by lot), and then accepted by lot on February 16th:

The M^d Pair James & Frances Edgcombe. vvo*

7 Jan^{ry} 29

1. The letter from the Synodal Deacons (Jan 19, 1825) soliciting a Collection towards Synodal expences, is to be read to-morrow at the L. S. previous to the Holy Com^m
2. Proposed to be declared Candidates for the Holy Com^m the following Girls, who are inhabitants of the 1st house:

Leonora Carr	?	No*
Sarah Weeks	?	Yes*
Sarah Manners	?	Yes*
Martha Davis	?	Yes*
Rebecca Griffan	?	Yes*

2. Two letters for Reception have been received from the Girls Ann Strange & Jane Lovegrove
3. Proposed to be declared Candidates for the H. Com^m

Girls: Ann Briggs	?	Yes*
Leonora Carr	?	Yes*
4. Proposed for Reception on the Memorial Day

Girls: Ann Strange	?	Yes*
Jane Lovegrove	?	No*
5. On account of the Reception, all the Com^ms will be invited to be present at the L. S. & meet^g for Reception

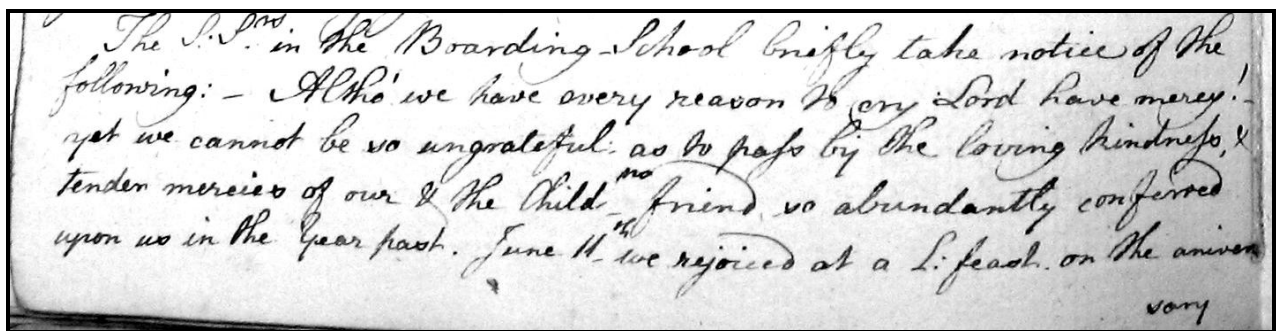
The Moravians in their own words: An exercise!

Two extracts from the Minister's *Congregational Diary* for 1795 are presented here. In reading them, a number of questions might helpfully be asked:

1. What can we learn about their attitude to children?
2. How might this attitude be related to their attitude towards God?
3. How well-off was the congregation?
4. How did the Moravians in this church cope with suffering and death?
5. What can we learn from the Moravians of the 18th century that can be applied today?

Extract 1: 1795

We have retained the idiosyncratic grammar and spelling of the writer of these extracts, but have replaced abbreviations with the full words. The illustration shows the first part of the text.



Transcription

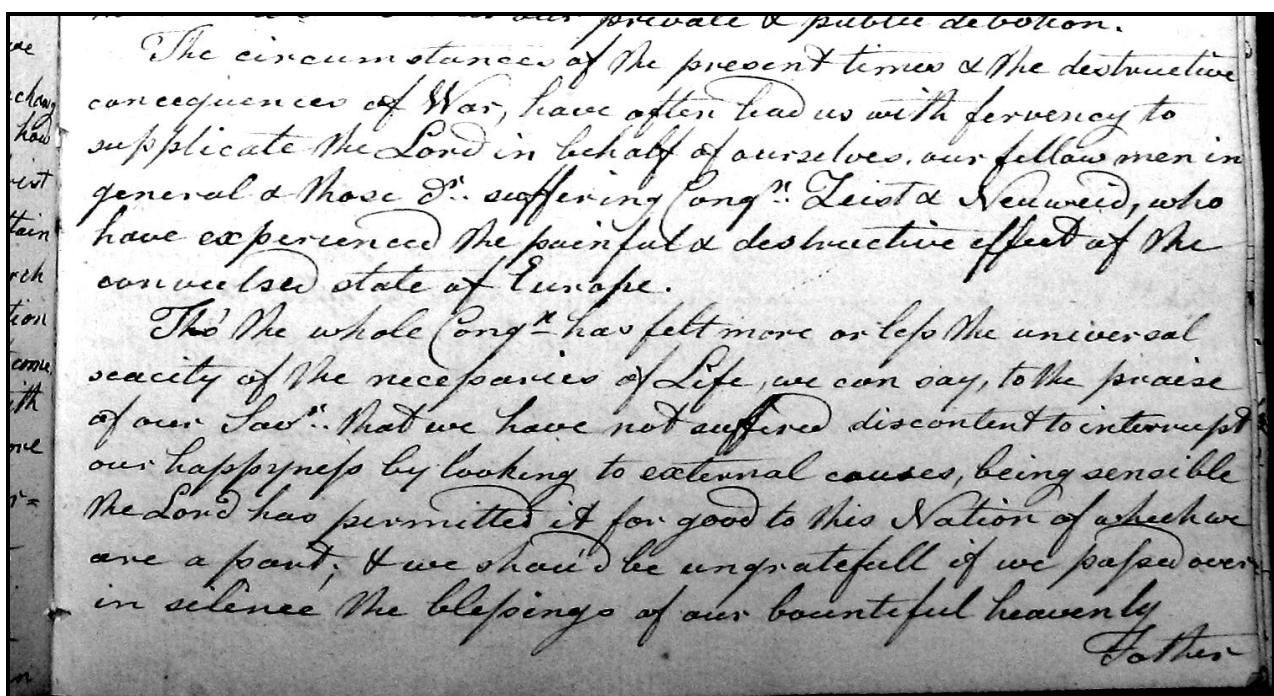
The Single Sisters in the Boarding School briefly take notice of the following:- Altho' we have every reason to cry Lord have mercy! – yet we cannot be so ungrateful as to pass by the loving kindness, and tender mercies of our and the Children's friend, so abundantly conferred upon us in the year past. June 11th we rejoiced at a Love feast on the anniversary of our entering into the School-house, at the conclusion of which Brother La Trobe offered up a heart affecting prayer, which left a pleasing impression on our minds.

The little Girl Ann Worgan who came to us June 8th in a poor state of health was taken ill of a bilious fever, and July 16th departed very happily to our Saviour her remains were interred on the 18th her dear Parents being present; after the funeral the whole Congregation met to a Love Feast. She was lively a very loving engaging Child and seemed prepared for her happy

change. August 17th was indeed a day of grace and blessing, on which the Children's friend walked in our midst, and gave us to feel his near presence in all our meetings; The classes were particularly distinguished. When each Child was addressed in a suitable and loving manner, which tenderly affected the dear Children, so that afterwards it was pleasing to observe in stillness their conversation and reflections concerning the same. – We cannot but hope the blessed [illegible] as they enjoy will be productive of real and abiding fruit, and childlike thank our dear Saviour for what has been affected, on their little hearts in the course of the past year; believing that many of them have a tender feeling of the love of Jesus, and obtained more life in their hearts.

We are also thankful for the temporal blessings we have enjoyed particularly in the late unhealthy season, that we have been favoured [?] with good health in general so that not above one or two of the Family had much reason to complain in this respect, thro' out the Year. On Xmas Eve the Children assembled to a chearfull Love Feast, and rejoiced at the celebration of our Saviour's birth, offering him the tribute of their greatfull hearts, and lisping forth his praise.

Extract 2 : 1795



The circumstances of the present times & the destructive consequences of War, have often lead us with fervency to supplicate the Lord in behalf of ourselves, our fellow men in general & those d^r. suffering Congⁿ. Least & Newweid, who have experienced the painful & destructive effect of the convulsed state of Europe.

Tho' the whole Congⁿ. has felt more or less the universal scarcity of the necessaries of Life, we can say, to the praise of our Sav^r. that we have not suffered discontent to interrupt our happiness by looking to external causes, being sensible the Lord has permitted it for good to this Nation of which we are a part; & we shall be ungratefull if we pass over in silence the blessings of our bountiful heavenly Father.

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Respecting the different Choirs in this Congregation we have reason to believe that the Holy Ghost has lead each faithful Soul, to a clearer knowledge of themselves, and the inexhausted stores of grace there is in the blessed Incarnation Life sufferings, and death of our crucified Saviour from whence alone is to be derived sanctification for Soul and Body.

Our Single Sisters on looking back upon the past year find much reason for gratitude to God our Saviour who has graciously owned them as a family of his, and let them feel that amidst all their faults, and imperfections, he does not withdraw his chearing countenance from them. It has been a Year repleat with trials of various kinds, in each of which they have however experienced his kind support. They wish to bear in thankful remembrance their having had from time to time a sufficiency of work which has been the more observable on account of the scarcity in many other places. Their hearty wish now is shall all our Dear Lords dealings with them may have

the effect to excite more attention to his aim with each, and that they may in future yield him more joy.