

**AN ADDRESS TO YOUNG
FEMALE CONVERTS, WHO
HAVE COMMENCED THEIR
CHRISTIAN COURSE REJOICING**

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An Address to Young Female Converts, Who Have Commenced Their Christian Course
Rejoicing by Catherine Lake

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CATHERINE LAKE

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TO
YOUNG FEMALE CONVERTS,

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REJOICING.

BY
MISS CATHARINE LAKE.



" Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart
of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him."—

1 Cor. ii. 9.

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THE Authoress has the satisfaction of announcing to the Public, that since the commencement of publication, she has been honoured with the patronage of Her Majesty the Queen Dowager, and several of the Nobility and Clergy, besides a great many of the respectable inhabitants of Chelsea and its vicinity; so that upwards of three hundred Subscribers have already been obtained. In consequence of this pleasing success; the Authoress has been induced to order fifteen hundred copies to be printed for the first edition, and she is determined that no pains or cost shall be spared to render it worthy the acceptance of an enlightened Public

CHELSEA,
24th December, 1842.

P R E F A C E.

My dear young friends and fellow-pilgrims to the heavenly Jerusalem, I commenced the following little work (designed for your good) when in a weak and delicate state of health; but He who giveth power to the faint, and to them who have no might increaseth strength, enabled me to proceed. I have found it to be a delightful and sweet employment: I have composed it with little study, merely giving expression to the sentiments of my own heart. I trust, therefore, that those advanced and experienced Christians, who may peruse its pages, will bear with its imperfections; and should they find any thing contrary to their own opinions, they will be pleased to receive it in Christian for-

bearance and love. Although I have addressed it entirely to Young Female Converts, who have commenced their Christian course rejoicing, yet I have endeavoured, at the same time, to make it profitable to all. But let not those Christians be discouraged, who, in looking into their own experience, find that they did not realize at the commencement of their heavenward course, that delight in God, and that joy in His service, which I have described. That agreeable variety which adorns the face of nature, prevails also in the spiritual kingdom ; and hence it is, that the experience of one Christian seldom accords with the experience of another ; for some are constrained by the terrors of the Lord—by the thunderings and lightnings, the clouds and darkness of Mount Sinai—to work out their own salvation with fear and trembling ; while others are drawn by the cords of love to delight themselves in God, and feel extatic joy in His service.

Let not therefore any of my readers be discouraged, if theirs be not this joyful—this blessed experience. If they can only say—“Lord, Thou knowest all things, Thou knowest that I love Thee;” or even, “Thou knowest that I *desire* to love Thee,” and endeavour to conform their lives to the precepts of God’s word, they may rest assured that they, too, are of that thrice happy number, which shall be kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation, ready to be revealed in the last day. Simple as this Work may appear, yet who can tell whether God (who has chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; and base things of the world, and things which are despised—yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: that no flesh should glory in his presence) may not be pleased so to bless the imperfect attempt, as to make it the instrument in His hands

to strengthen the Christian graces of some, and to implant them in others? Or may I not venture to breathe a hope, that when this heart has ceased to beat, and this tongue has become silent,—when this body is mouldering in the dust, and the spirit has returned to God who gave it,—He may be pleased to preserve this little work as a silent witness to the Truth, in the hands of those who read it?

And now, my dear young friends, let me entreat you to offer up a prayer to the throne of Grace, to join your prayers with mine, that this simple undertaking may be blessed for your salvation; and that it may also be the means of drawing many from the paths of vice, and winning souls to Christ. That this may be the blessed result, may God of His infinite mercy grant, and to His name be all the praise. Amen.
