

## **MS Small Pox<sup>1</sup>**

This hymn is the first on a set of looseleaf pages given accession number MA 1977/583/23 in the Methodist Archive and Research Centre (Charles Wesley Notebooks Box 4). These pages also contain MS Death of Thomas Waller (draft 2), which is provided a separate transcription in this collection. The transcription below is provided with permission of the Librarian and Director, The John Rylands Library, The University of Manchester.

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<sup>1</sup>This 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.  
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**For the Mother of a Young man  
in the Small-pox.<sup>2</sup>**

- [1.] Jesus, regard a Mother's sighs:  
Her Isaac on the altar lies,  
Her lov'd, and only Son,  
As struggling in the toils of death  
He lies—as gasping out his breath,  
His last expiring groan!
- [2.] With pity mark her silent tears  
Her pious prayers, and tender fears  
T' oppose thy sovereign will,  
Her wish with meekness to submit,  
And weep afflicted at thy feet  
Till Thou thy mind reveal.
- [3.] Obedient to the word divine,  
She woud her more than life resign,  
If Thou her Son demand,  
Forbid on earth his longer stay,  
And take him from the evil day  
To that celestial land.
- [4.] If Thou hast work prepar'd for Him,  
Thou canst, Almighty to redeem,

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<sup>2</sup>Appears also in MS Funeral Hymns, 93–94. Published posthumously in *Poetical Works*, 8:410–11. In MS Funeral Hymns the mother is identified as Elizabeth Vigor, of Bristol.

Both soul and body save,  
Canst stop the Spirit in its flight,  
Arrest him at the gates of light,  
And snatch him from the grave.

[5.] Now, Lord, a gracious token give,  
And let us with the Parent grieve  
Resign'd to thy decree,  
Calmly, like Her, expect to prove  
The appointments of Almighty Love  
And leave our all to Thee.

[6.] Thy love must send whate'er is best;  
Grant, or deny her fond request;  
O give her back her Son,<sup>3</sup>  
Or to thy mercy's<sup>4</sup> arms receive,  
And bid him in<sup>5</sup> thy glory live  
Partaker of thy throne.

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<sup>3</sup>Ori., "~~And make thy counsel known.~~" Next changed to "~~And~~ give her back her son"; then changed to "~~Or~~ give her back her son"; and finally changed to "O give her back her son."

<sup>4</sup>Ori., "~~Her Isaac to thy~~" changed to "Or to thy mercy's."

<sup>5</sup>Ori., "~~Or bid him to~~" changed to "And bid him in."