

1790

Oct 10th A South wind and smart Rain. Calld by my yung neph Carver to see his wife Sophy at the Hosp for Disorderd Minds. He informd me I was calld at her request. She was found in pervers habets and is seised with Melancholia. Fixt on her por Motherhood. I have seen her deliverd of 3 unwell Sons. Sadness enormus. She clung unsound to her expird babs. At the last bad birth she was so desperite mad she gnawd it, fast teeth and weeping as if eating the por cold thing. Three years ago that was. The Dr of this new way of hosp, Galt, informd me she has bad damp vapours all abot her mind that grew in the time. The Dr's wife, Mary, cares for the women and showd me to Sophy. I found her in distress and low state. Very Desireous I should assist with the delvry of her next Child, unfortunet Delusin. She told me she recevd an Angel in her confinement. The Angel was in a Cloud condition and tuchd her in the condition of Water. Told me of Cloud wings driping mist. Unsound sight. In the teling she gave a quick smile in a face unmade by her desolvd state. She beleves she is with Child from the Angel. Unsound joy. Implord me to protect her secret. Beggd me to delv the Child in the time. Cluchd to my wrist. I promisd I shal call in 2 weeks. I saw the dry in her eyes, very brite veins. She was fixt on the Rain, calld it the breth of the Sky scaterd to drops. Fixt on the sound she calld a net of broken breth. Calld our atmosere a breth traping us. Made me listen to the Rain. I fear the talk is bad for her Reson. I taried all day, hoping to see the end of Rain. I sat with Sophy and her quiet tears. I fear for her soul. But the Hosp is a pleast accom. Clen brick building. A cortyard for the confined to go out in full Air. Daily allowences of Provisions, water-gruel, mush and molases, milk potage, bread and buter, vegs, and four days in the week fresh meat. I left her cleverly in the tranquilizer Chair. Mary showd me the Chair and calld it a Tretment. It is a new inventoun for the Manic and

the Meloncholic. There are binds on the Chair for the Lunatick to rest inside and a box to obscour the head with dark. Sophy much calmd in the Chair. I am impresd with this kind est and may God's mercie keep it well. Dr Galt informd me it is the first of our nation. Proud of the Hosp. The paling is his own.

1790

Oct 24th. Cloudy. I doubld Thread in morn. There was a thef whipt at Post for steling Cloth from Mrs Harwood. Fast day, I was late in calling on Sophy. Mel cont. Mary informs me she is so weak she faints when they tak her out of bed. In privet conversaton, she is fixt on the Child she beleves she has and fixt on the Angel she beleves made it. Told me the Angel was of a composetan more flat than flesh. Troubl'd abt her Child. Troubl'd I shod hold the secret. No Relief for her. May the tru Great Parent see her thru her sick worries. I almost told the Dr or Mary abt the Delusin. Unsure why I kept silent on it. Calld to Warrin in the eve. Mrs Warrin safe deliverd of a son. The Ladies who assisted took a late super after all maters complete. I receved 12 Dollars and some cloth. Returnd home much fatagud.

1790

Nov 16th. Cloudy and a small Fog. The Girls washt wit me this morn. We are whitening Cloth. Aft I calld on Sophy at the Hosp for Desordered minds. Mel cont. She was low and weeping. Troubl'd waiting for the delv she beleves will happen. Told me the lac of a Child feels as a Death

to her, likend herself to an Earth witout wind, Earth witout sunlight, Earth witout elamints and turns, a fals Earth folded closd wit no Famly of forses to hold. I saw her to the tranquilizer Chair.

1790

Nov 30th. A lit Rain fore. Calld on Sophy. She is seised with Vomets and they do not know why. They beleve it is her Humors disturbd by Vapours. She lookd to me with a small Joy in eye, happy with her Sick. She beleves it is a sign she is with Child. Set on naming him William. I do not know what to make of it. Fat plantd in her cheks And the Sick. I could beleve she is in the Cond. I do not know how. Been in the Hosp for a year or more. I cont to promis the secret. She kissd my hands. Refusd to sit in the tranquilizer Chair as she was sick in it the day fore.

Compland she brethd a mess of Vomets in the box and lafd abt it, calld it a better taste than orig food wit rude eyes for Mary G. Seeing the laf Mary worried for Mania. I left her to a flash of cold Bath meant to restore Humuors and good sens. I did not see the Bath hap but i trust it was well had.

1790

Dec 14th. Cloudy. Calld on Sophy. Galt intro me to a new Dr calld for her ills. A tall man namd Lionel Grieten. Proud man, angry abt Capital change to Richmond. He beleves it should be fixt on our Williamsburg. His Brother livs in Rich and at it he went abt his broth, a Taterdemaleon in his est and por. I needed clarety abt some of his words, like the Taterdemaleon, a word i want to keep for it feels lik a new coat for my teth. Dr Grieten dresst fine and in white. I did not visit

with Sophy in priv, joind by Dr Grieten. Dr Grieten serprisd to see her in a Joy. She dansd with me but I would not danse. Dr warnd of Mania. Informd me the Mel can feed Mania. Askd abt my calls on Sophy. Beleves it bad for her Mel, from my time with her por Motherhood. He wants to prevent Mania. I left Sophy in flashes of very cold Bath. Another act they calld a Tretment. Seeing it hap i did not like to leve her in this Tretment. It scatterd her Breth and I recalld what she told me abt the Rain. Her breth broke like Rain on the ground. It corects the Drs told me.

1790

Dec 21st. Clear but Cold. Finisht a pair of Linning Stockins for Sophy. I saw to her wit them. Dr Grieten unhapy to see me. Fearful I should feed her Mania. I enformd him I am calld by her request and she is a fin Lady. She is not a Lunatick from the Gaol. Dr Grieten sed she could be seisd by vilence and did not wish to leve us. Sophy broke in weps. She told the Dr she is in need of me. The Dr beleves she needs the tranquilizer Chair. Left us to call on Mary for assist. Sophy took my hand to her stomake and I felt a Presens makeing its dark start in there. Told me she needs my help wit cloudy wet eyes. Beggd me to see her Child safe delvd. I beleve she is in the Cond. No Angel did it. I do not know if the Delusin is born from Mania or Mel. Must disc the true Father. I begd her alowence to inform her Drs of the Cond. Told her the Drs would see in time. Soon the Presens will show. She wept, lost to a fit. Grieten returnd. He saw the surprise in me. Askd abt my fear. I told him I feard for my Affine. I left her to the tranquilizer Chair. She warnd the Drs of her wild Vomet. In jest she told them she may decorat the box in Sick and that wont be tranquel. Askd for a biger room for her head and lafd.

1790

Dec 30th. Some Snow, some black Clouds. Dolly unwell. I made her Catnip tea then had to leve. Arivd in late aft to Daniel Rose to see his Wife. found her safe delivd of a Son. Born betwixt Six and Seven O Clok. She was exercised with pain and fainting after delv and revivd with use of Camphor. Left them at 9. Reseved 6 shilings. Returnd home 11, fatagud. Comeing home I saw a black Fog. It scaterd on an Oak, shadeing the tree with wet. My hors excieding fretful. I fear my Senses are threaded in a murk. The black Fog I saw breake into a pare of big Wings draped on the branchs. Wings shapd into dark curves of a Woman with a thin face of mist. I beleved it when it was on my eyes but i do not see it now. A Vois spoke from inside my eyes. It askd me to see to the Child in confinmet. I beleve the Vois came from me or nothing. Angels do not go as a black Fog. I fear my Reson will go dry. I fear to call on Sophy agin. I do not want to lose my Reson.

1791

Jan 20th, Cold and Clear. I have helpt do my hous work and boiled soap. Aft I calld on Sophy. She was very much fatagud from the Lechs Dr Grieten set to her flesh. He informd me the beasts eat the unbalancd Blod desturbing the Humores. Beleves she blotes from desterbd Humors. Gave praise to the lechs for their clen bled, told me their spit can seel a bled, close and open the Blod like its a door. Strang talk of spit opening doors in Blod. She is unwell and sad and does not like the Lechs. Told us they are spiting bad pink rivers in her Blod. Desireous to return Home. Cant rem the warm and tast of a Home circumstense. My hand on her stomack feels the stir and shift of the Child in its makeing.

1791

Jan 27th, Clear and Cold. Galt calld me to the hosp for desordered minds. They have discvd Sophy's Cond. Galt and Mary are very desturbd. They tell me it is not possable. Askd if i knew of the Cond i fibbd. Askd if i knew the Father i sed i did not. Asked to keep the Secret i sed i will. They want my Aid and i will give it. I will see her safe delivd of the myst Child. I did not agre til i askd abt the Father, a carful query. I needed to believe Dr Galt is not resp and he and his wife asord me of the myst. No men in the womens rooms witout Mary. They beleve Sophy has secret caler. Fears Mistchef and he sold the few slavs on the est for new ones. I am told to not inform Mr Carver of the Cond. They hope he will not visit, and he has not visitd i am sad to lern. I hope my Neph feels shame for the neglet and calling me to visit in his sted. I did not talk with Sophy far as she was in a Slep.

1791

Feb 20th, Small Rain morn, Clear aft. Calld by Galt to see to Sophy. Tarded in the morn, knit. Calld to Sophy after Rain. She has had a month in a state of Slep and lechs. Much fatagud. I fear for her Strangth for the delv. I do not know if Grieten's lechs are a good aid. He informd me the good work will soon be made manifest, in more time the Blod will clen. Fond him in a good Spirit. Pleast talking wit me. Askd abt my Widow years as hes a Widow too and he knows the megar lonly days of it. He beleves he can see Sophy safe delv of her child in the time. He beleves

seeing to Travail is work for Drs, not Ladies. He speks of a new instrement for the delv that must be used by Drs. I do not lik it. I have seen Drs pretend and act as unfortunate men in the practise.

1791

Mar 15th, Cloudy, Cold. Calld by Drsto see to Sophy. She has found Spirit. Drs informs me she has not had the Lechs for weeks. He beleves she is in a Mania and needs a cold Bath. He askd if I beleve this will be safe for the Child. Dr Grieten beleves it will be but Mr Galt asks me for its a womens mater. I rec aganst it. The small one needs the Warm. Sophy was very happy to see me. Happy for her Child. She sed she feels the Child's blesing in her Blod galops. She feels the Child as a Sunlight inside the dark of her bones, and she sed she feels the joy of an anckor, hevly put in a purpose.

1791

Apr 26th. A small Rain. Calld to the hosp to see to Sophy and the progres of her Child. She is in a Fear. I am not to tell the Drs but she informs me her Angel warns of danger in the Hosp for her Child. I refusd to tak her Child and told her the Angel was not true, a sad Delusin she must end for Reson. I sed her Child was safe in the Hosp, in care of good Drs as she was. She beleves i knew the Angel to be true for the Angel speks of visitng me on my retorn home in the night. Askd if i saw the beuty of the Angel in woman shape. I told her i saw no shape and i do not know her Angel and Angels do not come as woman. She sees my Fib. Tuchd my face and beged for my

Truth but i will not give it. I will not write it. I will not vois. Very Desireous of leving the hosp
but she does not want to see to Husb. She has no Place she bewales. I left her in a small wep and
Mary saw her to the Chair. I will not return but for the delv.

1791

May 20th. pleast and Clear. Called to the hosp for Disorderd Minds. Sophy in Travil. By Galts
order Dr Grieten gave the Case up to me and she was safe Delivd of a Son William, a Bab
strange in his beuty. Skin the silver of dew i think i saw. Sophy in a Joy bold. Shakeing hudle
with her Child and held him up to her tears. Joy braks her brething. She is not hap wit the
confinment of the new Birth. Beggd me to secret the Child out of the Hosp. Shiftd the Bab to my
retreting hold. She waild the Child is not saf there but I refusd. I did not hold and agin told her
the Child is safe. Mary and Grieten saw to us in the mid of this pervers talk. Grieten enformd us
she is too warm with Fever and he gav to her arms the Tretment of Lechs. Sophy did not like
giveing the Child to the right arms of Mary.

1791

May 24th. A Shoury Day. I will try to write my aft, God give me the grace to bear it. I find my
fingernales hot. If i do not calm i will be lost to a fit and the writeing calms. Calld to the Hosp for
a horrid sad scein, enformed Sophy expird that morn. She was seised by Fever in the night and
there was no good Tretments. No aid held to her Body. Grieten gave Lechs and they did not aid.
The new Child Willam was unwell. Mary saw me to Grieten atending to the sick Newborn. I saw

the Babe small in Sophys big bed and small in a sad writh and it was a pain to see. Litle feet in a desperite tramp. Evil smell, a lod of Bile. Closed face and pink wit Hot. Set my hand on the litle head and it was soft and wet. Not as hot as I expectd. Grieten moved my hand off the Bab and he sed he did not beleve the Child to live far. His hand long on my hand. Askd me if they must call for Mr Carver for Sophy and the Child. I did not know what to say. I do not like to say of what i do not know. I think he likd my destres. Corner of a smil. He askd shod him and i take the Bab and grow him together. Stod betwen me and the Door. I had no chois but the room and him. I told him he shod not jest in this grave time, Sophy expired and a Child close to it. I trembl'd mad and Fearful. Askd what Medisin had been used, sad to hear of Calomel. In my times Calomel is dangerus and i beleve put out too oft. The wet from the Childs lips a bad mark. He did not want to hear my Medisin, he did not beleve i had a Medisin. I askd why he call'd me if not for my Aid. He sed he wish'd me to see true Medisin for the Untitld like me are of fals Medisin. Told me it was like a Lech for my understanding and he likd to see the lech eat and clen my Reson. I made for the Door and he stod between. Spoke agin of the Untitld, keen to insult me. Told me he had Tretments for me and i sed i did not require a Tretment for i was well. Told me he chos if i was well. Plas'd a hand on Willam, the Newborn slow to stilnes. I cannot tell another what he told me, he warn'd of the Mania it wold bring me to. He sed he likd to see the work of Lechs, the feeding. He does not beleve the Lechs are a help for most Sicks. They feed for his Watch. Askd why i saw to Sophy if not to see her Sick and like it. Told him i saw to her for Aid and he sed help is for slavs. He askd to mary me in jest, ofer'd to give me a Title agin, a title lost when i lost my Hus. I refus'd. I tutch'd the Child's smal neck to see for life flutter and agin Grieten mov'd my hand with force and fore he did i felt the wrong Lump in the smal jaw. Fore he mov'd my hand agin i fast

pressd on the Childs colding cheks. From my press a Lech slipd out the expird lips. I left the Dr
to his wrong room and the woful afair wont leve me, confind to this privat pages.