

Hamover Feb 12th /66

Dear my Son

I rec'd a letter last week giving us the sad intelligence of the sudden death of your wife, Oh how sudden and unexpected, My dear Son as has been expressed, words are poor things to express what is needed on such an occasion but believe me I do feel deeply for you in this trying hour and would do you good, yes the greatest good, I would point you to the Fountain of comfort where all your sorrows and griefs can be assuaged. Yes it is true what the poet expresses that Earth has no sorrows, that Heaven cannot ^{cure}. My earnest prayer is that this sore trial of ~~your~~ ^{your} bereavement may be sanctified to you and to us all, allow me to express at this time some of my past hopes and desires & fears. When you left your family

Transcription:

[raised imprint reads: "CARSONS"]

Hanover Feb 12th /66

Leander my Son

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week giving us the sad intelignce of the sudden death of your wife, Oh how sudden and unexpected, My dear son (as has been expressed) words are poor things to express what is needed on such an occasion but believe me I do feel deeply for you in this trying hour and would do you good, yes the greatest good, I would point you to the Fountain of comfort where all your sorrows and griefs can be assuaged

Yes it is true what the poet expres^{^s}es that

Earth has no sorrows, that Heaven cannot ^{cure}

My earnest prayer is that this sore trial & bereavement may be sanctified to you and to us all, Allow me to express at this time some of my past hopes and desires & fears When you left your family

and enlisted in your country's service
I how anxious I felt that you might
feel the need of God's help and make a full
surrender of yourself to him that you
might be useful in a two fold sense in
the army and if your life was spared that
you might return to your family a wiser
and better man, but when you was so
mercifully preserved and permitted to return
home safe and well, to see such a seeming
indifference, so little manifest sense of your
obligations to God my heart was pained &
I felt assured that God would try you
in some other way that you would surely
be chastened yet how little I thought
it would be in this way and so soon
But my soul it is a truth for God has
declared it, that he does ^{not} willingly afflict
and it is also declared that no chastening
for the present is in vain but grievous
for the present is joyous but grievous
but nevertheless it yields the peaceable
fruits of righteousness if we are rightly
exercised, I fear that in the past

Transcription:

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O, how anxious I felt that you might
^feel the need of God's help and make a full
surrender of yourself to him that you
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span years you have made promises
to God that you have failed to per-
form and do my dear Son be persuaded
by one who loves your soul (and feels in
a degree her own responsibility in its
salvation) to repent and turn to God and
do works meet for repentance, Permit me
to enquire whether you have any definite
settled purpose in respect to securing the
salvation of your soul, Delays are dan-
gerous and you have been forcibly remind-
ed of that of late, and you have now
a double responsibility resting upon you
now the training of those two little mother-
less children O how much you need Gods
help seek it I entreat of you now while
you may, There is a divine reality in
religion notwithstanding you see it so poor-
ly exemplified, but perhaps there is more
real good in the world than you are inclin-
ed to believe if you will search for it
where it may be found, When I think you
will be a strong witness in divine matters

Transcription:

four years you have made promises to God that you have failed to perform and do my dear Son be persuaded by one who loves your soul (and feels in a degree her own responsibility in it's salvation) to repent and turn to God and do works meet for repentance, Permit me to enquire whether you have any definite settled purpose in respect to securing the salvation of your soul, Delays are dangerous and you have been forcibly reminded of that of late, and you have now a double responsibility resting upon you now the training of those two little motherless children. O how much you need Gods help seek it I entreat of you now while you may. There is a divine reality in religion notwithstanding you see it so poorly exemplified, but perhaps there is more real good in the world than you are inclined to believe if you will search for it where it may be found, When I think you might be instrumental in doing much good

I long to have you begin at once
you could be a help to your ^{own} brothers
and sisters and to society in which you
live, yes I do so earnestly desire to see
my children set out to serve God with
full purpose of heart and not follow
the example they have had all their
lives, yes I see & feel its sad effects
and lament and mourn over it daily
But still with all there is to deplore
I want you to enjoy what I enjoy from
day to day in seeking Gods help and stud-
ying his word, yes it is truly a balm
for every wound and a cordial for every
heart, I hope you will write soon and
let me know how you feel and what you in-
tend to do, and the particulars of Emily's sick-
ness & death, and I stand ready to aid you
in every way possible

As ever

As ever

Your own

Mother

Transcription:

I long to have you begin at once
you could be a help to your ^{own} brothers
and sisters and to society in which you
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As ever
Your own
Mother