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38

The Gospel Monitor.

Or a little Book of Mother Ann's Word
To those who are placed to instruct the Children.

Written by Mother Lucy,

And brought by her to the Elders of the first Order on

the Holy Mount. N. L. March 1st 1841.

Copied by Inspiration, by Mother Ann's Request, March 2^d

To be faithfully used in every Society of Believers, for the benefit of

Mother's Babes.

Copied from the original manuscript.

Introduction

Mother Lucy's Word to the Elders.

O beloved Elders, I have many times, & for a long time, desired to make known my feelings & desires, in regard to the order of children; & respecting those set in order to take care of them.

But my blessed Mother Ann has sent you a little book of her own word, which perfectly satisfies me; and I do sincerely hope that it will be received & noticed as a word of some importance: for I see no other way for the babes in my Mother's house, to step forward in the increasing work, even according to their order.

I remain your friend and Mother Lucy.

The contents of this little Book are,

- First, an interesting interview of the writer, with Mother Ann: March 1st 1842. Second, Mother's Word to the caretakers
Third, to the children.
Fourth, to the Elders.

3
Part II

An interesting interview of the writer with Mother Ann. March 1st 1842.

1. As I entered my room from my evening meal, I was met by the Elder Sister Olive Spencer. She said to me, Come with me, child, for your loving Mother, even your ever blessed Mother Ann waiteth for thee, & she bade me conduct thee to her Mansion this night. She took me by the hand, & soon placed me in the presence of Mother Ann.

2. Mother bade me sit down by her side. She said Olive, you may go now, you have done my will. I have much to say to this little one of mine, & when I get thro', I will sound my trumpet, & you may come & conduct her home. Mother then said to me; Little one, I wish you to sit patiently, while I instruct you concerning the good, comfort & protection of the little ones, yea, even the very least, & youngest in my house upon earth.

3. As a Mother & Parent indeed, I feel great concern for the young & tender lambs of my flock; & I can by no means give rest to my spirit, or return to my Mansions above in peace, until I can more fully make known my desires concerning them. I have much good counsel, & a Mother's instruction to impart to such as are placed as caretakers

of those numbered in the order of children in Zion.

4. I will now speak to you in the simple & tenderest feelings of a Mother; & you must receive it as such; will you? said Mother. I bowed & said, O my Mother! I am indeed unworthy to come into Thy presence; but I will receive thankfully, any thing that my blessed Mother has for me.

5. She then said, I have not been well pleased, nay, not at all, my spirit has been sorely grieved, for a long time, in regard to the order of children, that have been gathered into the Zion of my God upon earth. I say, for a long time, and truly it is a time long, to be sure; for there has never been that order which my spirit could own, love & bless, in reality, since those that were children in Father Joseph's day on earth.

6. I have, times without number, within three years past, walked to behold, & passed to view the different classes, lots, & orders of, & among my children below; & in almost all cases, & the most of the time, my spirit was in a measure satisfied, save with the order of children.

7. I could see that beauty was increasing, & order & protection, in many points & places, was establishing, (which is inexpressibly pleasing to ^{the spirit of} your Mother) save in the order of the children; & this is, seemingly, passed by, & very much neglected, which is, and ever has been, a heavy grief, & distressing displeasure to the feelings of a careful parent, who feels much for her little ones;

yea, those that in very deed, come the nearest to her spirit, and demand her first love, notice & care.

8. Mother now bowed low, even to the floor of her mansion, and, & wept in grief of spirit, saying, O my child! this is not the first time that I your mother, have wept for my little ones. And O! that my Heavenly Father would open some way to relieve my burdened spirit, in regard to this one thing; that I may behold order & beauty among even the least & youngest in Zion, if it is only for a short season, before I am called home, no more to view them as I now can.

9. Much has been done, & much has been sent forth from the Heavens, for the very purpose of renewing the beauty, & re-establishing the order of the house of Israel, in all its different branches, lots, orders & apartments; yea, all has, in a great degree, been closely viewed, & much respect paid thereto, save the order of my babes, & their caretakers.

10. This, & this alone, is the sore grief, & heavy burden of my spirit, this night. For as it has been, I see no way for these little ones ever to learn the perfect Law of their Mother's house, or to be protected, in any wise, from the destroying enemies & prowling wolves of time.

11. Even their own carnal passions, natures, ways, wills, desires & inclinations, with their ungoverned & sordid propensities, will inevitably grow & increase, if not subdued by suitable restrictions & order, even in the least babe in my house.

12. Mother now covered her face & wept most bitterly, for some moments; then taking me by the hand, she led me to a pretty green, & bid me sit down, saying with indeed heavy sighs, When I was upon earth, I never suffered the parents of children to return home, when they had come to see me, & get counsel, without giving a strict charge, & many words of instruction, in regard to the care & protection of their little ones.

13. And whenever I visited the believers, whether those that lived near, or afar off, I never passed by, or closed my visit, without noticing the babes of their families. Even so when they came where I was, & brought their infants with them.

14. Then how think ye I could now suffer the little ones among my children, in this my visit, to be slightly noticed, and even neglected, as tho' they were not, & never would be worth the notice of a Parent & Mother. But this know ye, I shall no longer bear; for I have prayed earnestly to My Heavenly Father, & I do fully believe he will hear me; & that I shall be answered in full.

15. Mother now left me; but soon returned with Mother Lucy. She now commenced instructing me. Her word was plain, yet, in very deed, Motherly. After a lengthy word of counsel, she asked me if I thought I could remember her word, so as to deliver it to my Elders.

16. I said, Nay, Mother, that I can never do to their satisfaction, nor to my own. Mother Ann then desired Mother Lucy hastily to prepare a book, & to write her word correctly,

even as she should speak it. Mother Lucy obeyed. I sat a few moments, hearing Mother Ann speak, & seeing Mother Lucy write.

17. But soon a little Angel entered, & Mother Ann bid me make ready to return to my home, saying, you have now heard much good, go home & let it comfort you; for you will see the day that you will remember, with true thankfulness, this visit with me, your Mother.

18. When Mother Lucy has finished the word which I shall speak unto her, then she will give you the little book, & in union with your Elders, you must copy it. But remember to write on the first pages, all that has passed this night, that I, your Mother, may be sure that my sorrows are known on earth, as well as in Heaven.

19. Mother then gave me her love, & bade me be a good child; sounded her trumpet for Elder Sister Olive, who soon came, & I returned home, having been absent two hours, & twenty five minutes.

20. I prepared me a book, & wrote thus far. I then went to rest. On the morrow I received from the hand of my beloved Mother Lucy, the little Book which she had written. In obedience to my blessed Mother, & in union with my Elders, I copied the words of the book, which are contained in the following pages.

Adah Lillah Potter.

Part II

A little Book of Mother Anns own Word. Containing her instructions to those intrusted with the particular care of the order of children, in her house upon earth.

Section 1.

1. Come gather near, O ye little ones, (says Mother Ann,) gather near to me your Mother, & listen to my word; for my spirit is sorely grieved & troubled, because of my babes; O yea, my innocent babes, even the little ones of my house. My first word is to you; & as a kind & careful Parent, I shall instruct you how to deal with my little ones, or all such as it is the will of the visible Lead to place in the order of children.

2. I will give you my word, & let the same be the Law of your ever loving Mother, so far as the anointed, & the Elders in Israel feel to sanction & support it. But the word which I now sound in your ears, remember, is my sure Law of protection, for the order of children and their caretakers. So now my dear children, hearken to the word of your Mother. Yea, you that are called & appointed to feel for, to teach, to guide & protect the youngest part, class or order in the fold of Zion.

3. Draw near & give attention, while I say that

it is the real desire of your Mother; yea, know ye, one & all, that it is my earnest desire, that the rules & orders of this part of my house below, be remembered, & considered as important to be kept & supported conscientiously, as any part of the Laws of Zion, & holy orders of the Church.

4. And I do believe that all, who feel for the rising generation, or who desire to have rightful heirs to the inheritance of the faithful, or successors upon whom their blessings can flow freely, will feel as I do.

5. Altho' it is of small things, & for young minds, yet I say it is of as much importance in my view & understanding, as many other matters; & at this moment weighs down my spirit with grief.

6. I do not feel as tho' I could rest in peace, & return to my Mansion above, without handing to you my written word, in union with your visible Lead, that you might know the will & desire of your Mother in these things.

7. For I do think that the flourishing prosperity of the rising generation, surely, in a measure, depends upon the tuition & management of the class, or order of children.

8. And again, I am confident to say, that the prosperity & welfare of the children, mostly depends upon the careful watch, & wise dealings of those that have the particular charge of them.

9. So now, as a kind Mother, I speak; for altho' there are, & have been, heavier matters daily beating upon my spirit, like the troubled waves of the ocean; yet I cannot feel perfectly at rest, without spending a few moments at this time, to write to you a short word, that may serve for a comfort, strength & guide with the word of your beloved & visible Lead, when I am gone, or when my word you cannot receive immediately from me, your Mother, as you can now.

10. In the first place, you should in all serious labors, or conversations with them, always speak words of entire truth, & well considered; such as will by no means vary, may, not in the least, from the true meaning, or from that which you intend they shall understand. Never do this at any time.

11. Never in any case whatever, presume to speak or move to correct a child, in a passion; but ever let reason, & gentleness of spirit, direct your movements.

12. Never by any means, make known their weaknesses, or their failings, to the members of the family, nor delight to make sport of their odd ways, at any time.

13. At all times avoid speaking to any one, in a fractious, or passionate manner, in the presence or hearing of the children. This sentence of my word

is to every member of Zion that cares for the welfare of the young.

14. Never allow yourselves to speak diminutively of any one, in presence of the children, let you think what you will, or have ever so much occasion; neither make mention of the difficulties, or failings of the brethren or sisters, in the hearing of the children; & as far as possible, avoid their having knowledge of that which transpires in the family, particularly in meeting.

15. Whenever they bring forward any trial or abuse, or even any thing that seems like mismanagement of the brethren or Sisters towards them, always take suitable means to learn the truth, reality & reason of the matter, before you say much to the child. If the person accused is to blame, then give the child such counsel as will be for its best good; & if you have to pass words with the brother or sister, let it be entirely one side of the child.

Section 2.

1. Again I say, O ye goodly Shepherds over my little Lambs, listen yet a little longer to my word; for truly you need a Mother's word, & a true Mother's

care. You need to be at all times clothed with a Mothers love, patience, charity, meekness, forbearance, true knowledge & wisdom. For many are the devices of satan, to destroy and overcome, even the least babes in my house. Therefore ye must ever, in all cases, labor to understand, & to deal wisely, according to the magnitude of the case.

2. Be very careful always to learn, if possible, the whole truth, on both sides of a disagreement between them, before you attempt to settle it; but never let a disagreement of any importance between them, go unsettled; but require an acknowledgement on both sides. Never allow them to bring the matter up after that.

3. Never let any thing, neither relation, friendship, pride, fancy, or whatever, towards others, or any one of the children, or in yourself, in the least tempt you to show, or use any partiality, in any respect, either in praise or reproof.

4. But if ill health, or any particular disease, requires immediate attention, then regard it with care; but as much as possible, without the knowledge of the child.

5. Never tell them, either in earnest, or in any other way, that you do not, or did not expect them to obey you, or mind a word that you say to them.

6. Never call them by any names, but their own

proper ones, either for mortification or any other reason; and by no means allow them to do it by each other.

7. In case that one or more of the class be obstinate, disobedient & willful, & expose themselves to the rest, by unbecoming behavior, ever be careful, & talk not against them to any, or all of the class, when they are not present. But if to subdue them, you deem it necessary to make words with the rest, let it be before them, & in their hearing. But avoid public reproof, as far as possible, when the nature of the case does not require it. Never keep a child on its knees for correction, over fifteen minutes.

8. Children should never be allowed to have conversation together, or make comments upon the doings of their instructors, in any case, especially concerning their admonitions or reproofs.

9. Always avoid holding conversation with those of the family, in the hearing of the children, upon that which does not concern them, & that which they cannot understand, or let it be what it may, especially between brethren & sisters.

10. When grown people enter the apartments of the children, or go among them to speak with their caretakers, or whatever their errand may be, or how lengthy their stay, the little ones should never be allowed to jump

from their seats, & run to get notice, until you give them liberty.

11. Neither should any one ever call a child from its employment, to notice it a little or much, without first learning of their instructors the degree of union in which the child stands.

12. Never send an errand of any importance, by the children, to the members of the family; neither should the members make any practice of sending errands by the children to their caretakers, either of that which relates to their own concerns, or any thing else. Do it not when it can be avoided.

13. By no means should there be any errands, or words of information, sent from one instructor to another, either from school or wherever the children are permitted to attend, by any child, concerning the ill conduct of another, unless it be by writing, & unknown to the one by whom it ~~was~~^{is} sent. But let all such as have the care & charge of children, transact their own business, & do it as much without the knowledge of the children as possible.

14. Never set the older class to govern or tutor the younger, in case they are stubborn; and not at all except in some extra case.

15. No one in the children's order, ought ever to go here or there, for company, for brethren & sisters: Yea, let it ever be remembered that this is a grievous trial to the spirit

of your Mother. But if the help of some of the oldest is really needed in a job of business, then let there be some suitable person set in order to take charge of them; & all others that may be present, are to let them alone.

16. And ever let it be remembered, in all cases, when the children do go into jobs of business with the grown people, that there should be no unnecessary conversation upon the transactions of the family, either of a spiritual or temporal nature. And when the children return to their little companions, they should not be allowed to converse together upon what they have seen or heard; they are to say nothing about it, save to their caretakers.

17. But O my beloved ones, know ye that it is pleasing to the spirit of your Mother; yea, it is my desire & my will, that all the hand labor of my little ones, be performed as much as possible in the dwellings where they reside, or at least in the bounds of their own order, & under the instruction of their immediate caretakers, as respects the female class in particular.

18. If there be some, or many jobs of out business, that this class can assist in, & their caretakers can attend with them, it is all well enough. Let this class learn, & do their milking in the summer season (and have no access to the barns & stables while in the order of children)

This my word will extend to those in the male class, that are so young that they can be no help. [And none under the age of 14, or 15 years, should go to washing.]

19. It is many times expedient, & for the best, to put some of the male class at different trades of business, while yet in the order of children; but there ought, at all times, to be a great wisdom used in this case, that the children do not run over, or go beyond the bounds of their own order.

20. Never let any small, or even any common concern, hinder the children from attending strictly to all their daily & weekly orders of protection, in every point, however many or small they may be, or wherever they are at work.

21. And it ought always to be enjoined on each & every one that has the concern with any child, to see that they do strictly keep their rules & orders; & O, never, by any means hinder them, by speaking slightly of their regulations before, & to them.

22. O, my beloved ones, do ever remember this, the word of your loving Mother Ann. Ever keep children in their order; & keep that order which they have not yet travelled to, out of their knowledge; and you may rest assured that they will be happy & contented in it; & they will increase and flourish, & will in very deed, adorn & beautify the house of Israel, as much as any branch, or part of Zion.

Section 3.

1. Listen yet longer, & hear now, the third section of my Word, & ever know that the young of the flock need the first watch, & the tenderest care of their Parents & protectors. O, then be patient, be wise, be charitable, be parents of true love, & perfect justice; deal impartially with my little ones.

2. In all cases, & at all times, do your duty in regard to them, as doing good to your own souls, & always support a principle of conscience, & act according to it, in all your proceedings.

3. Never make abrupt expressions to reprove or mortify them; for there is never any need of it; & it only learns them to say the same words to each other.

4. Avoid calling them liars & thieves, or filthy, nasty, & stinking creatures, & the like, in the presence of the class of children. But if you have occasion for such words, for a mortification, let it be in your private labors.

5. Never make promises to little children, that you cannot fulfill according to your word. Make no practice of hiring any child over the age of four years to obey you; by giving them presents of any kind. But at all times, when they have done well, & to your satisfaction, & you feel to reward them, by giving them some extra privilege, or in any way that you think will be for their good,

do it freely. At the same time, give them to understand that it is a reward for what they have done. This will encourage them to do well again; but will not bring you under so many obligations of promise, which many times, circumstances will not allow you to fulfill, according to your promise.

6. Never accuse any one of a crime, great or small, that you are not entirely confident, or have not proof that you can rely upon, that the child is guilty, or to blame. Never correct a child upon the word of another, unless you have some proof of your own.

7. Deal very carefully with all, especially, in regard to the habit of lying. If they are addicted to this wicked practice, they should never be asked if they have said or done so, & so, without first giving them some words to prepare their minds to speak the truth. If you are satisfied that they are in the wrong, then ask them why they did so, & so? And take means to get round them, & overcome them.

8. But if they still persist in this evil practice, they should be strictly followed up by reasonable terms of correction, until they will fear to do it. And the younger a child is broke of this habit, the easier, & better. And the same I say of the wicked practices of meddling, pilfering and stealing.

9. O, my beloved ones! hearken to the counsel of your Mother this once, & never think that any child that you have, or perhaps ever will have under your care, is too young to be corrected, until it is reformed from whatever error, however great or small, it is capable of committing; and so suffer them to go on, flattering yourselves that they will out-grow it, or leave it off of choice.

10. But ever remember that the earliest age is the best time to implant that which you wish to have thrive & take deep root in them. And the present time is ever the best time ~~is ever the best time~~ to correct a child for a fault, even while it is fresh in its memory, and can realize the justice of the correction.

11. Never let small, trifling or unnecessary concerns hinder you from attending to your labors with them once a week, & as much oftener as they desire, or you feel that their situation requires it.

12. Never deny any child a privilege to confess a fault, that you can feel, asks out of sincere motives, conviction of spirit, or honesty of heart, in any degree. I say never put them off over night, when you can avoid it; lest they lose what conviction they feel, & cannot easily gain it at another time.

13. But if they have no desire to come to any degree

of honesty, give yourselves no rest, until you know that they understand the danger they are in; & suffer them not to lie down at night, or to have an equal privilege in their hours of worship, when they are guilty of willful transgressions of any kind, without reminding them of their duty, & the order that is set for their protection.

14. If they are given to filthy & vicious practices, deal with them in private labors & corrections, as far as possible; & do not require them to make a public acknowledgement of their faults, unless it is some very public crime, of considerable amount, that the whole class have knowledge of. Never by any means punish a child for a fault which it has honestly confessed. If it be that which it has committed many times before; if you think it needs mortifying, very well; let it be mortified.

15. Use no words in your public or private labors, that will excite the young mind to desire a still further knowledge of the influence of their own carnal passions: but as far as they are ignorant, let them remain so; and be cautious in questioning them, unless you are sure that they understand you aright.

16. But at all times, & in all cases, let your testimony against filthiness of every kind & description, be plain and positive, & show no union with it in the least child.

Never tell them that you do not expect them to take up a full cross, all at once, against acting ~~acting~~ after the influence of their natures.

17. I say give no toleration at all, for actions; but tell them that a full cross must be borne, & all filthy works must be laid aside, or they cannot be the true children of their ever blessed Mother Ann, nor rightful heirs to their privilege. Be faithful in ^{this} after the child that is seven years of age, has had a privilege of two months.

18. In the hours & times that you attend to their openings, they should never be allowed to have any noisy work, & by no means any play going on; but they should always retire a suitable time, according to their age and privilege, or according to that degree of labor which you may feel they need.

19. Always teach them that it is a very solemn & sacred performance, even the most so of any that is, at any time, enjoined upon them; & this you should do, by paying the same sacred regard to the gift; yea, ever remember to prepare yourselves in the fear of ^{your} God, & in a situation to teach them the same.

20. Never be heard by a child, or a youth, to speak of confessing sin in a playful, or light manner or spirit; and never allow the children to have conversation upon this gift, at any time, for they will not profit by it.

Section 4.

1. Be not weary of the word of your Mother, O my little cross-bearers; but listen yet longer, & know ye, that the gain of the little ones, for whose concern you daily feed, is at all times, your gain; their comfort is your comfort; their joy is your joy; & their troubles & difficulties are ever yours.

2. O then, carefully avoid all unnecessary crosses, trials and restrictions, by providing means whereby their young minds, & tender spirits can be excited to that which will encourage, & even cause them to obey you thro' love, and with delight. But never do this by equalizing with them, or breaking your word to please them, or by flattering them to obey you.

3. They should never be left entirely alone, over half an hour, either at work or at play, or at their studies; excepting sacred duties, or important concerns require you to leave them longer. And at such times they should have regulations; but not orders so binding, but that they can amuse themselves by singing, or reading that which is profitable & interesting; but ever let it be that which is sacred.

4. If there be those that are not in good union, leave them under such degrees of mortification as you may feel they deserve; but keep all close & within doors, as much as possible, at times & hours of sacred worship. Never

allow them to be walking the gardens & orchards on the sabbath, nor to be round in the work shops, or standing on the outside steps, & hanging on the banisters &c.

5. Give all a privilege to attend meeting with the family once a week, that you can feel have prepared themselves by obedience & honesty, but no others. And never coax flatter or hire a child over four years of age, to prepare itself, or to gain a privilege to go to meeting with you; for if any cannot prize the privilege worth gaining by real goodness, then they ought not to have it; for it will be no gain nor blessing to them; & the sin of a child will shut out the blessing in a measure.

6. And let it be known that I, your blessed Mother, Ann, would, of myself, have the little ones of my flock, [meaning the boys & girls] come together, once in a fortnight, to attend their meetings; but they must never be left without all of their caretakers being present, that can attend. But this matter I leave to the wisdom of the Lead, but of myself I should do this.)

7. Never leave one at home entirely alone, for correction, of any age, while they are in the childrens order; for in that case their protection is at once gone.

8. In their own meetings which should be at least three in a week; except sickness or something extra

prevents; there should always be a regard to all the sacred orders of worship. Teach them how to pray to God, and to their heavenly parents. Teach them to labor for little simple gifts, & for the true power of God.

9. But be very careful to give them an understanding between a power that is, in reality, irresistible, & the simple exercises of the body, for freedom's sake, or to unite with the gift. Teach them to retire in order, & respect their sacred moments, however few. Let the older class, or those over 10 years, retire fifteen minutes, & the younger class ten. This can be attended to, even if they retire together.

10. The younger class of children should have their hours of recreation, exercise & simple amusement of their own, according to their various elements, notions & ideas, so far as they can, & have a degree of order in it, how far they may go, & to go no further. But in these hours they should never be entirely out of the hearing or sight of their caretakers, or instructors.

11 They should never be allowed to go forth in any religious exercises, in their times of play; but give them suitable times for this, & be very watchful that they never mingle the least part of sacred devotion, with their every day concerns; & above all with their childish

amusements. This is very grievous to the spirit of your Mother, & sin in the sight of God.

12. Never deal out to them sacred & divine gifts that they cannot understand, or comprehend; but spare no pains to enlighten their little minds, as much as possible, in regard to the sacred givings of God, their Almighty Creator; & concerning the first & second ministrations of their heavenly Parents on earth; also that of the blessed Savior, and of the holy Anointed and visible Lord.

13. And of the older class, I say the same in substance. All should have certain stated requirements in their daily employment. These should be upon reasonable terms, & according to their capacity, experience, & privilege, and not always according to their age.

14. They should not be allowed to tip back in their chairs, nor sit cross-legged when about their work, or in company, or when retiring before meeting.)

15. Be careful to know that they have honestly fulfilled that which you have required of them, before you release them to enjoy their hour, or time of amusement. And never in any wise, tell a child that you did not expect it to come up to your word, or regard what you say, as respects their days labor, or any thing else which you have ordered them to do.

16. Be considerate in all your requirements & promises to children, of every age & class. And if you have occasion to alter your word to them, give them a suitable understanding why you did so; further than this, the children should never have knowledge, or be concerned with the transactions of their caretakers: Nay in no wise.

17. All should have hours of study allowed them, & this should by no means be neglected in the seasons of the year when they do not attend school. They should be supplied with the New Testament, & the words of the sacred songs, which might be their study on the Sabbath, & at other times, if you felt so to direct. But in their times of study, in a general way, it ought to be strictly attended to by their caretakers, or by some one of the older class, that will be trusty, & teach them aright.

18. There is a sufficient assortment of books for the little ones of my flock to peruse, without fables, news prints, novels, picture-books, printers, & such like, which are injurious studies for Mother's little ones.

19. Let not their studies be mixed up with their hand labor. But when they work, let them work; & when they study, let them attend to that. And when you feel to give them time to learn to exercise in the sacred worship, they ought always to respect the exercise, & never make play, or a mock of it. And in the hours
 *alluding probably to primers containing the antichristian Catechism. Worse than useless.

of their amusement & recreation, let them lay aside all other employment, & attend to that.

20. Never allow them to go into the water to wash, swim, or whatever, unless you, or some trusty person who has come to years of understanding, can be present.

21. Never allow them to play with stones, edge-tools, nor with insects of any kind. Suffer them not to scuffle, wrestle, nor lay hands on each other, in any violent way. Allow them not to follow the various amusements of the children of this world; but rather chuse for them such exercises as are simple & becoming for your Mother's little ones.

22. Suffer them not to use hard words, nor to do any thing that will cause strife among them. O yea, ever remember to keep peace, & support order & harmony among my little ones. Never allow them to be out late at night, except on extra jobs; but not at all on saturday night.

23. Require them to rise at the alarm in the morning, & teach them to be lively & cheerful in the morning, especially the younger class, and these should not be kept up late at night. And if you have little ones, under four years of age, they ought to be put to sleep in the fore part of the day. If any of them incline to be wakeful in the morning, & wish to rise early, don't hinder them; but teach them to be still, & to stay in their own apartments until the time for them to attend to their employment. Do this for their protection.

Section 5.

1. The apartments where children reside, should never be kept very warm, & great care should be taken to have them have fresh air, especially morning & evening; & they ought never to go to rest in a warm room.

2. Avoid dressing the little ones too warm, as they cannot be out so much; but be careful to change their clothes with the weather. Dress them neat & comely, but put no superfluous garments upon them. Dress none over ten years old in calico of any kind, nor in garments of gay colours. Let the Sabbath day dress of all my little ones, be plain & modest, & as near the color of the uniform dress of my faithful children as possible.

3. In case they bring in fine & gay articles & garments, & you cannot dispose of them to profit, return them to their Parents, or relatives, & let them do what they feel with them. And never receive any thing from a parent or connection, nor from any one as a present for a child, that is disowned by me, your kind Mother. And suffer not my little babes to own & keep that in their possession, that I cannot bless them with as they grow older.

4. The members of the family should not hand presents immediately to the children; but if they have presents for them, the caretakers should be the receivers, & deal out according to their wisdom.

5. Teach them to be prudent of their clothes; & above all, teach them to feel a care in regard to their being well mended in due season.

Teach them to prize a garment that is well repaired & mended, & not to be careless, wasteful & unthankful for it. Never allow a ragged garment to be worn by the least child into the worship of God.

6. Never dress up a child in fine & nice clothes, to please its fanciful notions & ideas; & never change its dress for this purpose, set reasonable times & rules for them to change, according to their age & employment, & then bring them strictly to your requirements.

7. Suffer no spirit of selfish interest, & private property to rest among my little ones; but be faithful to teach them that they, and all they possess, more or less, does belong to the joint interest, and is consecrated to God & His people.

8. If you take children that have valuable clothes provided by their parents, & friends, that you feel to take for the less, or younger class, ever be mindful to replace them with as good ones, or see that the child you have taken them from, is supplied with such as would be as profitable to it.

9. When children are visited by their relatives or others, dress them neat, but plain; & never leave them alone, nor suffer them to go here & there with their relatives that have come to see them. Never make lengthy visits with the childrens relations, or acquaintances, & avoid taking unbelievers, or strangers into the childrens apartments; unless extreme sickness, or some extra case requires you to suffer it.

10. Watch my little ones closely, & see that they are

punctual to dress themselves neatly, & tidily, & above all, to wash clean their faces & hands; & they never ought to pass over a week, except in the coldest weather, without washing their bodies more or less, or having it done for them. This is greatly for their health. But leave them not alone at such times, lest they tempt each other in some evil way.

11. Now O my beloved ones, I know not but you may be weary, before this my little book is finished; but know ye, that the welfare of my little ones, lies with a weight inexpressible upon my spirit, at this time. But I hope this my word, will not be a word in vain.

12. Be careful of them in all points, as relates to their peace, their comfort, their love one to another, & their protection, their health & real good, both of soul & body. Let their food be prepared in a plain & simple manner. Give them no animal food; I say suffer that not to come upon their table; neither tea nor coffee. And make no practice of giving them hot drinks of any kind.

13. O yea, know ye, my beloved ones, that it is the will of your Mother, that neither animal food, tea, coffee, cider, tobacco, nor any kind of strong drink, should be used, or made mention of, in the order of my little ones in Zion; except in sickness, by order of the physicians.

14. It should always be allowed for all in the children's order, to have their two meals of milk in a day; except in the short season

when it is rather scarce. And as it is not so well for them to eat a full proportion of it at their evening meal, never deprive them of the right of having it when their cooks think proper to give it to them for dinner, or whenever it is thought best. But in extreme cold weather it should be warmed a little for breakfast.

15. Never give them (butter & milk at the same time, nor) any thing sour or pickled, with milk. (Never give them butter & cheese at the same meal.) Never spread their butter thick on their bread; and for those under ten, or twelve years old, lay it upon, or by the side of their dishes. Make no practice of giving them luncheon, or biting between meals.

16. Never allow them to eat many sorts of food at the same meal. Three or four different kinds for their evening meal, and four or five at their other meals, is the full extent that is needful for them. Deal it out in suitable portions, as you think they need; but never give them their wills, by taking away one thing, & giving them another; unless you think they will be injured by eating it. Teach them to partake of their food with thankful hearts.

17. Children should be provided with fruit; but they ought always to have some order in regard to eating it. Never allow them to eat green, or unripe fruit of any kind.

18. Be careful about giving children much medicine, unless very necessary. And if they are not dangerously sick,

keep them under your own care, & with their own company. But if it is considered a case that needs the daily concern of the Physicians, then place them away from the company; but keep a careful watch over them, & let them not stray from their order. If you desire the welfare of your little ones, don't stuff them with victuals, they had much better leave the table hungry, than to eat one mouthful more than is needful.

19. Now, O my dear children, yea, you that have the charge of my little babes, receive this little book, as a token of your Mother's love & remembrance of you, & your little ones.

20. In love I have repeated this my word to your good Mother Lucy, that ye might know, fully, my will & desire; & in love has she written it. And now, if ye will obey it in love, & help the little ones to do the same, so far as your visible Lead may think proper, then shall my blessing ever flow upon the little lambs of my fold upon earth, whenever this my word shall be sounded & received as the kind instruction of a true Parent.

21. Ever remember that my word is the same yesterday, to-day, & tomorrow; & lest ye do not yet understand, I will again repeat it. Keep children in their own order; & keep that order which they have not yet travelled to, out of their knowledge; & you may rest assured that they will be happy and contented in their own order, & will increase and

flourish, & will in very deed adorn Zion as much, according to their number, as any branch thereof.

22. And I will now close this part of my book of instruction to you, & will turn my notice of a true Mother's Love, will & word particularly, & immediately to the little ones, that they may know, & ever remember that they were the real objects of the particular notice of their Over blessed Mother Ann.

23. And now my last word is this; Ever be careful to keep your concerns, as regards the little ones, within the bounds of good order; and that is between you & your Elders, & no further; but be ever true to give your Elders a strict account of all your transactions at all times.

24. Keep your little ones, however small, in their order & place, and there will the blessing of Heaven attend them; & so much correction, & so many ~~pretty~~ punishments will not be necessary in the house of Israel on earth. So beloved, press on in my love, persevere thro' all trials, & you shall surely reap the reward of your faithful labors. The end of Mothers ^{Ann's} word to the caretakers of the children for this time.

Part III

Mother Ann's Law of protection for all in the Children's Order.

Section 1.

1. Draw near, ye little ones of a Mothers love, ye pretty

little innocent lambs of a true Shepherd's care. Come near unto me, your ever blessed Mother Ann. O yea, hearken this once, & give attention to the voice of a Mother that ye know not, as yet; but a mother whom ye will know, & ^{will} delight to obey, if ye will hearken to the word of this little book, which I have condescended to send unto you.

2. Mother's Word & Law for the little lambs of her fold. Yea says Mother Ann, if you would be my little ones, then hearken to my words. Keep this my law and command, and learn to fear your God.

3. You must be neat & cleanly, prudent & saving of every thing that is given you to eat, to drink, to wear, or to use at any time, about your work, your studies, or your play.

4. Never call any ill names, nor contradict any one, even if you think you know the best, & are right in the matter.

5. Never tell any one of your little mates, that they are hateful, nasty, stinking, or saucy creatures, & the like, nor spit at them.

6. Never tell any of them that they lie, nor call them thieves. Never accuse any one in that manner.

7. Never tell any of them that you hate them, or wish them to hell, or any other bad place. Never make any bad wishes against any body at all.

8. Never use wicked or vulgar words to express your ideas; and never have any filthy, nasty conversation, at any time.

9. Never make great expressions, or use big words when you are a little ashamed, frightened, or put out a little in your feelings; such as O, torment! Vengeance! My gracious! Good heavens! I shall die! I shall go to hell! Nor any such like expressions.

10. Never, at any time, allow yourselves to make use of the name of God, nor of any eternal or heavenly power, to express your feelings of contempt, of revenge or hatred; nor in any jovial & carnal, light or playful conversation.

11. Never, in any common conversation, make use of the least sentence of the sacred writings, that has ever been sent forth from Heaven, nor any which your kind caretakers may feel to say to you, to instruct you; & never, by any means make a mock or laugh at it.

12. Never speak slightly of your superiors; and never make derision of any one, especially of the aged & infirm.

13. Never speak against your caretakers; & if you give way to feel against them, never lie down at night, nor go into a meeting, until you have honestly confessed it.

14. Never tell your orders to any one out of your own class and company; & enquire not of others about their orders.

15. Never push, strike, kick, bite, scratch, nor lay hands on each other, when in a passion, or at play.

16. No scuffling, wrestling, whirling, & jumping from high beams, & other high places, looks pretty in the sight of your Mother, & is not owned by her in the least.

17. Never throw stones, nor sticks at each other; and never use any sharp edge tool to play with.

18. Never presume to carry on any play or sport that you learned while you lived with the children of sin; unless it is

something innocent & simple, that your caretakers think to be suitable for Mother's little ones. But this will seldom be the case.

19. Never tell old stories, nor foolish, or filthy ones at any time. never question any that have lately come to live with you, about their former home, their Parents, connections or friends, of their studies, employ, or plays.

20. Never relate to them the past difficulties, punishments, or orders that have been among you; & by no means, speak of the failings of your little companions to them.

21. Never ask impertinent questions, or unnecessary ones, of any one; about that which does not concern you.

22. Never ask to be released from any punishment or mortification that you are under, until you have honestly confess your fault.

23. Never walk at the right hand of your superiors, nor run by them without asking their leave. Never speak back, nor give an impudent answer to any one that gives you good counsel.

24. Never eat fruit of any kind before breakfast, nor after supper; & never eat unripe fruit at any time.

25. Never throw any thing into the fire that has the least morsel of nourishment in it, or that is good for any creature to eat. Never burn up the least bit of cloth or thread, that would be useful for any thing, or that would make ^{paper} ~~paper~~

26. Never pass carelessly by a pin, needle, nail, or bits of thread, cloth, puter, tin, iron, or any thing of the like

without picking it up, & saving it, or putting it in some suitable place to be used.

27. Never carry an open light into any garret, or over a box or basket of wood or shavings, or over open chests or drawers of garments or cloth.

28. Never all leave the room with the stove door open; and never leave the spit box on the stove, or under it.

29. Never sweep the hearth of a fire place or stove, with a broom, without examining it before you hang it up.

30. Never leave your apartments, or your employment without the knowledge of your caretakers, if they are in, or near by; & make no unnecessary errand out, or away from your duty, when they are absent.

Section 2.

1. Always rise in the morning, when the general alarm is given, unless you are sick, or something serious is the matter. Always be lively, cheerful & industrious in the morning; but learn to be very still, if you get up before the common time.

2. Always dress yourselves decently, wash your faces, & necks, ears & hands clean in the morning, & attend to your chores in due season, & do them well.

3. Always be ready to attend to your victuals in season, & go in order, two, & two, stepping your right feet together;

not hanging upon the banisters of the stairs, except it be the very least, or some one that is lame.

4. Always go to your meals in the fear of God, & partake of your food with as thankful hearts as you are able. Sit strait at the table, & when you have done eating, fold your hands in your lap, & when you kneel down, pray that you may be more thankful. Always remember to kneel in order at the table, to lay your handkerchief on the bench, fold up your hands, with the right thumb upon the other, and shut up your eyes.

5. Always fold your hands & stand erect, when any one is instructing you in your duty, & if you cannot promise to obey, or to reform, then say nothing at all, only to thank your advisers kindly for their good counsel. This you should always do.

6. Always ask handsomely, even from the least child, if you want a kindness done, by calling the name & saying, Will you be so kind as to do this or that for me.

7. Always return your thanks in plain words, & not by a kind of mutter. And when you are thanked, always make the person welcome in the same manner, & learn to use the language of your Mother, while you are young.

8. Always respect & reverence the aged, & be thankful to do any kindness for them, that lies in your power.

9. Always take off your hats & bonnets, or cloakes when

you have the privilege of going into the brethren & sisters ~~own~~ apartments, & into your own retiring rooms.

10. Always ask if you may come in, loud enough to be heard. Be careful not to slam the door, nor to walk flat footed & heavy. But if you carelessly forget, you must open the door again, & shut it still. This will learn you to remember.

11. Always shut the gates close & still, & never leave them slamming & swinging after you, if you have to go back the second or third time.

12. Always be still & attentive to your duties or studies, when your caretakers are absent, & never have any conversation at such times, that you would not if they were present; & none at all unless they give you permission.

13. Always own your faults, & never by any means, nor at any time, palm the blame of that which you have done, upon another, who was no more to blame than you.

14. Always be sure to confess honestly, your own fault before you attempt to open the faults of others; & never do this when in a passion; but wait till you feel a right spirit.

15. Always speak the truth, in every respect, & never be sly, nor deceitful in any of your dealings with one another.

16. Always be free & open hearted; ask handsomely for what you want; & never meddle, nor take any thing without permission. And if those you ask, do not feel to answer

your desire, then be contented, & think that they know best what is for your good, & greatest gain.

17. Always kneel before & after you eat, whether you are alone or in company, or let the time of day be what it may.

18. Always remember to be silent when any one is at prayer, and if it be your superior, you should kneel, or leave the room.

19. Always shut your eyes, fold your hands, & give your little heart to God, as sincerely as you are able when you kneel; & never be so wicked as to make a mock of the gift of prayer, by laughing, talking or playing on your knees, or kneeling in so careless a spirit, that you hardly think you are on your knees. If you do this, you ought to confess it as sin, & repent of it as such.

20. Always leave your work, your tools, & your clothes in good order at night. (And when you lie down to sleep, place yourselves strait, with your hands laid pretty near together, not folded up; by the side of your head, but not under it.) Never meddle with the one you sleep with, unless it is very necessary.

21. Always remember to give your last thoughts at night, and your first in the morning, to God your heavenly Father, or to the good spirits, or little angels that surround you, and never dare to pass one word after you have kneeled at night, until you have kneeled in the morning, unless it be very necessary for you to speak to your caretakers. And if at times you have liberty to lie down to rest in the day time, never

have any play or whispering. Remember this is the word of your loving Mother Ann.

22. Always be thankful to every one that gives you any good counsel, & never speak saucily to any of the brethren or sisters, nor talk against them. If you do this, you must confess it with shame, or you cannot be my little ones.

23. Always wash your hands clean, before you go to your meals, & wipe your mouths, before you drink at the table, or any where else. Learn also to use your knife and fork & spoon decently; & never leave crumbs on your plate. And remember if you are sluts & slovens, & wasteful little ones, I cannot love you, nor own you for mine. If you drop your victuals on the floor, you must pick it up, and eat it, if it is not spoiled.

24. Always eat what is given you, & be thankful for that, before you ask for more. But never be so wicked as to throw away the least crumb of that which is prepared for you to eat; because you do not love it so well as you would something else. If you do this, you will have to suffer for it in eternity, & I cannot meet you in peace.

25. Always be careful of your clothes, & never let the least article be wasted thro' your neglect, neither of your clothing, food, tools, nor of any thing with which you are concerned.

26. Always cut your nails once a week, & comb your heads once a day, & as many more times as is needful. Always keep your combs clean, & in their places; & also your shoes; keep them clean, mended & greased, & in their proper places.

27. Always be thankful to have your clothes mended, & be choice of them; & be careful not to rend & soil them, more than is really unavoidable. And never change, nor dispatch any of your garments without permission; & never think that you ought to share equal with the brethren & sisters in any thing.

Section 3

1. O my little ones, you must never amuse yourselves in any kind of sport, or childish play upon the holy Sabbath. Never read story books, almanacks, histories, & nothing of the like kind on the Sabbath.

2. Never do any hand labor that can possibly be avoided on this sacred day, but be sober & be solemn, & think upon God.

3. Never cut your nails, nor your hair, nor grease your shoes, nor regulate your drawers & cupboards on the Sabbath. Never pick flowers, nor crack nuts on the Sabbath, neither tell old stories, nor talk upon foolish things.

4. Never be at the windows on the Sabbath, looking out at those that are passing by. Never idle away your

your time on the Sabbath; but improve it in reading writing, or some useful employment, or religious exercise, in union with your caretakers.

5. Never be noisy & talkative when you return from your meetings, especially when you have the privilege to assemble with the brethren & sisters; but be silent, & labor to sense your blessed privilege, & be thankful for it.

6. Never be gazing round in time of meeting, but be simple & zealous, & learn to worship God aright.

7. Never go into meeting with your little consciences condemned with wilful disobedience, or any known sin. Remember if you do, I shall know it. And if you go forth in the worship of God with my faithful children, or with your little companions, with your hands, hearts or tongues defiled with filthy actions, feelings or words, remember the little Angels will write it down against you, & you will have it to meet when you enter eternity. This will ever be my word to all that have had a privilege of six months.

8. Never laugh at, nor make any derision of any operation that you see performed in meeting; nor of any religious exercise whatever; & never imitate them in your plays.

9. Never have any conversation together, upon what you hear spoken in meeting. If you do not understand it, ask

of your caretakers for a further understanding.

10. Never have any talking, laughing or playing in retiring time; but retire in order, sitting erect, & off from your chair backs, in one or two strait ranks, with your hands folded upon your laps, as long, or as many minutes as your caretakers think proper.

11. Never enter the place of worship in a rough & noisy manner; but bow as you enter; & never allow yourselves to take one step upon your flat foot, in the time of meeting; and leave the room in the same godly fear and respect.

12. Never have any laughing or talking after your evening meetings; but go still to your rest. This is the law of your Mother.

13. Never make any mock of the sacred songs; nor sing them when about your work, nor in your hours of amusement without permission.

14. Never leave your morning chores till after breakfast; except it is very necessary. And when you go to milking, do your duty & return. But remember, all ye my little ones, that the horse sheds, stables, hovels, hogpens, barns & barnyards, machine shops, mills, mill-ponds, milking yards, wash-houses, cellars & kitchens, are not the places for you to be in, only when sent by your caretakers.

15. Never be cruel to dumb beasts, nor insects of any kind; make no sport of them, & play not with them; & handle them not at any time, except some immediate duty requires it,

and you do it in obedience. By no means handle cats & dogs.

16. Never wear your good clothes to do nasty jobs of work, & never murmur & complain of your clothes, nor of your victuals.

17. Never go jumping, hopping, stringing one behind the other, talking & laughing loud, & the like, when you are going to meeting, to victuals, to school, or to any other duty of the day, where you go in company together; but go two & two, stepping your right feet together, & giving the right side to the oldest. And if you meet your superiors, turn out for them.

18. Never have any talking, laughing or play going on, at the times you have allowed you to retire, before opening your minds, or confessing your faults. And when you enter the apartments of your caretakers, it ought ever to be in the greatest degree of godly fear. And when you speak to them, you should always speak as follows; Brother or Sister, & speak their names, and not say you without any respect to them or their calling & gift.

Section 4.

1. Listen, little ones, to my fourth & last section of my word unto you, at this time. Be very careful what use you make of these rules & commands which I, your loving & truly kind Mother, have condescended to send unto you.

2. Well do I know that your kind caretakers are careful to teach you how to be honest, good & obedient children, such as

I can own; love & bless; & such as the blessings of Heaven will freely distil upon, & such as the simple gifts of God will easily flow unto. And if you love & obey them, you will love and obey me your Mother.

3. You must always obey cheerfully, & at the first bidding; if you do not, you need not think that you are good children. You need never to call yourselves good Believers, or Mother's children, if you lie down at night, or go into meeting, with any willful disobedience, or deceitful faults, that are not confessed; or if you have broken any one of these, your good Mother's orders, willfully & knowingly, & have not confessed it.

4. Now you that would be my prettiest, my loveliest, and my best little ones, must always keep your little hands clean from every filthy action. Use no bad words, & keep your little consciences clear. Always speak the truth, and never meaningly deceive any one. Be willing to receive reproof & mortification, & be thankful for admonition. Love one another, & ever know that a complaining and a faultfinding spirit, does not belong among Mother's little ones.

5. Be kind to the younger ones; & by no means ever teach them, or cause them to do wrong.

6. Never be ^{so} cruel to yourselves, as to try to smother

your consciences against confessing your faults, just as they are, great or small, more or less, and never lay them up until saturday, or some time when you think you shall be called upon, thinking perhaps it will be easier or less cross; or may be it will be out of your mind.

7. O may, my little babes, remember, at all times the words of your Mother, in this little book; Always to confess your faults when you are first sensible you have done wrong. And when you have asked for a privilege to do it, never leave the room till you have freed your minds, & been truly & honest; if your caretakers can attend with you so long; if not, ask for another privilege.

8. If all this you will do, you will have the love, the union & blessing of your kind caretakers & instructors, at all times, by day & by night; & you will ever love them with the purest & sweetest of love; & you will have no occasion for finding fault or complaining of each other.

9. Your beloved Elders, brethren & sisters will love you, and your very countenances will prove you to be good children. You will be lively, cheerful & happy; and the things which you have left behind, in the wicked world, will seem nasty & hateful to you; and you will be thankful that you have left them.

10. And now my last word to my little babes is this;

Ever love your good home, & prize your precious privilege in Zion, far better than your father's house; & cleave to your beloved caretakers, Brethren & Sisters, rather than your natural relations. If you cannot do this, you cannot be worthy of your privilege, nor true children of your Mother.

11. Yet ever remember to regard & respect your natural Parents, & always behave as becomes dutiful children to them. This is the word & will of your ever blessed Mother Ann.

12. Now hear ye, O ye little lambs of my flock! Every child that will conscientiously keep these my rules & orders, as delighting to keep the law of their Mother, shall be entitled to their love & blessing, & the peculiar notice of my protection, every day that they do it to the best of their knowledge, or to the satisfaction of those that have the charge of them, so long as they remain in the children's order.

13. And let it be remembered, that when any of you have the privilege to go with the brethren & sisters to live, you are not to say any thing about this, your Mother's little Order Book; but you are to keep such orders as will then be given for your protection.

So now farewell my little ones, says Mother Ann.

Copied by order of the Ministry for the little children in the States of Ohio, and Kentucky, from the original Manuscript. By Seth Y. Wells Sec^r
(The above is an exact copy of the one written by Seth Y. Wells.)

Part IV

Mother Anns Word to the Elders in Lion.

1 O ye, my faithful watchmen! Marvel not that I your loving Mother, and ever watchful & careful Parent, have, at this moment of heavy burdens, & deep tribulation, laid aside all things else, & retired by myself, as it were, to lament the sorrowful situation that my little ones, yea, the very ^{objects} of a kind Mothers & true Parents first care, have long been in.

2. For truly, they are like young & tender lambs, wildly ranging upon the rocky mountains, through the dismal forest, or the common, exposed by day & by night, to the severity of the weather, to the raging winds that blow, & to become a prey to ravenous wolves, & wild beasts of the forest, knowing no Shepherd's voice, & feeling not their care; nay, not even that of their own dams.

3. O yea, indeed, sorely has the spirit of your Mother been grieved, to behold all this, instead of viewing the young of the flock placed in pleasant pastures, well fenced around for their protection, with careful shepherds close by their side to watch & protect them, yea, such as would care for them, & not leave them to suffer harm, cold or hunger, or to stray from their bounds, & do injury to themselves,

and thereby cause them double care and trouble when they return.

4. O, my beloved, marvel not I say, that I have of myself, even this day, sent this word unto you; neither marvel at the doings of your Mother, in the means I have taken to convey my word to those whom you have chosen to protect & teach the little ones of my flock, & even my word unto them. For I have done this to relieve my burdened spirit, & lessen the grief of your beloved Father Joseph, and Mother Lucy.

5. And how think ye, if I am indeed & in truth a Mother, a friend, or a careful Parent, that I could do otherwise; for where are there any true parents, even in nature, that would not turn their first attention, at the risk of all things, yea, even of their own lives, to rescue their little ones from harm, or hide them from the enemy, if possible, when they saw him fast approaching to destroy them.

6. This is what I have done at this time. And where are the wealthy & able Parents that would not provide careful nurses to attend to the young of their family? And would not the Parents daily instruct the nurses in every crisis of their concerns with their little ones? This, & this only have I done, by sending my word to the caretakers of my babes in Zion.

7. And again, where are the Parents that care for the honorable character of their family, for the esteem & approbation of those around them; or desire to be considered as people of good government; & more than all this, such as delight in the present comfort & happiness of their offspring, day by day, & that their children might regard them with dutiful respect, & honor them in their old age, that would in any wise, allow them to have a full range of the whole possessions of their Parents, & have knowledge of all their concerns, to go where they please, & come when they choose, without any regard even for the principles of morality.

8. O my beloved, consider upon these things a moment, with me your Mother, & then cast your eyes around, & behold the distressed situation of my little ones, & I think you will not marvel at the grief of your Mother, nor wonder at my doings at this time; for hath not your Heavenly Father sent forth his righteous, just, & holy Laws, which are indeed to be kept thro generations to come, in obedience to his word, by the inhabitants of his Lion on earth? Yea, indeed in mighty mercy & everlasting love, hath he looked upon the present & rising generation.

9. And if the almighty Creator, & God of all, will so condescend to draw so near to mortals, & show such eternal loving kindness, & fatherly care for the despised few of

His name, among the innumerable race of his creation, then how can one think strange, that I, the kind and careful, & most affectionate of Mothers, feel greatly concerned for the present prosperity, & future welfare of my little ones, yea, even the very babes of my Father's House?

10. O Men, my beloved, receive, I beseech you, this little book from the hands of your Mother, & hide it not from those to whom I have written it. And if there be any among the Shepherds of my little lambs, that cannot receive it thankfully, as a comforting, & strengthening word of instruction to them, from a true & kind Parent, & as a notice of parental affection to their little ones, then I say, I promise no further concern for them, I own them not as mine.

11. But as far as this shall circulate, in union with the holy Anointed; & shall be thankfully received, & readily obeyed, I will send from my own Mansion a guardian & protecting Angel, to remain with every class of little ones, in the house of Israel on earth.

12. But when this is set at nought, & no longer received & obeyed, as the law of your Mother, & the order of her house; then shall I call my little angels home, & bewail the destruction of my little ones, even as I have done this day.

13. And besides this, I will send a ball of my purest love, my richest blessing, my everlasting peace, & my true comfort, to every child of mine, that shall be the keeper of this little book of my Law, in union with their Elders. And every time they will read the first five sections for their own benefit, & the four next, to my little ones, I will add to their store, yet another ball, or leave this permission with their guardian Angels. But O, never let it be perused as a common story book!

14. And as I have written it upon this, the first day that ye my children have kept as a sacred day, in remembrance of me your Mother, [March 1st 1846] or of my birth, so I should be well pleased, to have it ever read to my little ones, upon this day: And again on the sixth day of August, in remembrance of my landing in America. If ye will do this to please me, then on these days I will remember my little ones, & will pray to my Heavenly Father for their protection & safe going, & for the comfort and prosperity of those that have the charge of them.

15. So now my word is nearly finished, & my spirit will be greatly relieved, if you will receive this, as the loving notice of a kind Mother. But listen a moment longer O ye Elders in Zion; for I say, & with the most earnest desire to be listened to; that if ye turn away from you

and receive not the little ones that are brought unto you, for protection, you will grieve the tenderest feelings of your Mother. And when you have taken them in, nurse, feed & clothe them; & gather such into the first order of Zion, as you are thoughtful will make good & honorable members. Prove them well, & ever remember to secure them lawfully.

16. When this you have done, never fear to act the part of true Parents to them, as respects all management with them. Deal with them as tho' they were your own, & you alone were to be responsible for their present and future welfare. Never place a child, when first taken in, that is over ten years old, in the class according to its age; but keep it back from two to six months, according to its age & understanding, & its increase in honesty and obedience.

17. After a child has had two months privilege, and still continues to cleave to its own will, is stubborn, thievish, or given to lying, & being deceitful, & does not seem to regard nor fear the orders given for its protection; then fear not to correct with the rod; & let this be faithfully done, yet with consideration. And never slack your hand for a child's screaming, or kicking; but ever bring it to perfect obedience, before you show it any union.

18. Never do this in the presence of any one of the class of children, & ever let it be the caretakers of the children that use the rod, if they are able in body. This is the word of your Mother, & this you need not fear to rely on; for no earthly power can, in any justice, ever condemn you for it, & this you well know.

19. And more than all this; no parents in nature that care for the good of a child, would spare the rod, (when other means had failed to reprim the child,) until seemingly it was utterly beyond reformation.

20. And O, how can I bear to see my little ones suffer so many hours of mortification, or rather vexation, and repeated petty punishments, & get hardened for want of true order, & a true Parents correction, & I still be silent & withhold my word? This beloved I will do no longer; for if this my word can be listened to, & thoroughly proved, you may rest assured, every babe, yea, even the least one in Zion, shall prove a blessing from this time.

21. So now listen to the last word of your Mother, in regard to my little ones. Ever let those that take care of them, deal impartially with them, at all times. Never mind trifles, nor punish small offences; but let your word be a law to them; and let not sin go unpunished.

22. Give them their hours of recreation, their times of study, & suitable privilege to learn correctly, the sacred exercises of worship. Teach them to do their work well, before they learn to do it swiftly; to be prudent & saving, and above all, to regard & respect the Sabbath, & the hours of worship at any time.

23. And lastly; teach them to love their little orders, and to obey them with delight. And when you read my word unto them, remind them of my promise. If you will hearken to this my word, which I now submit into the hands of your beloved Lead, then you may remember I remain your loving and ever blessed.

Mother, Ann, Sec.

The above copy was drawn from the one written by Seth, y Wells dated Holy Mount. (N. L.)

May 30th 1842.

This copy was finished
 September 15th 1842
 Scribe, Presgift Wells.