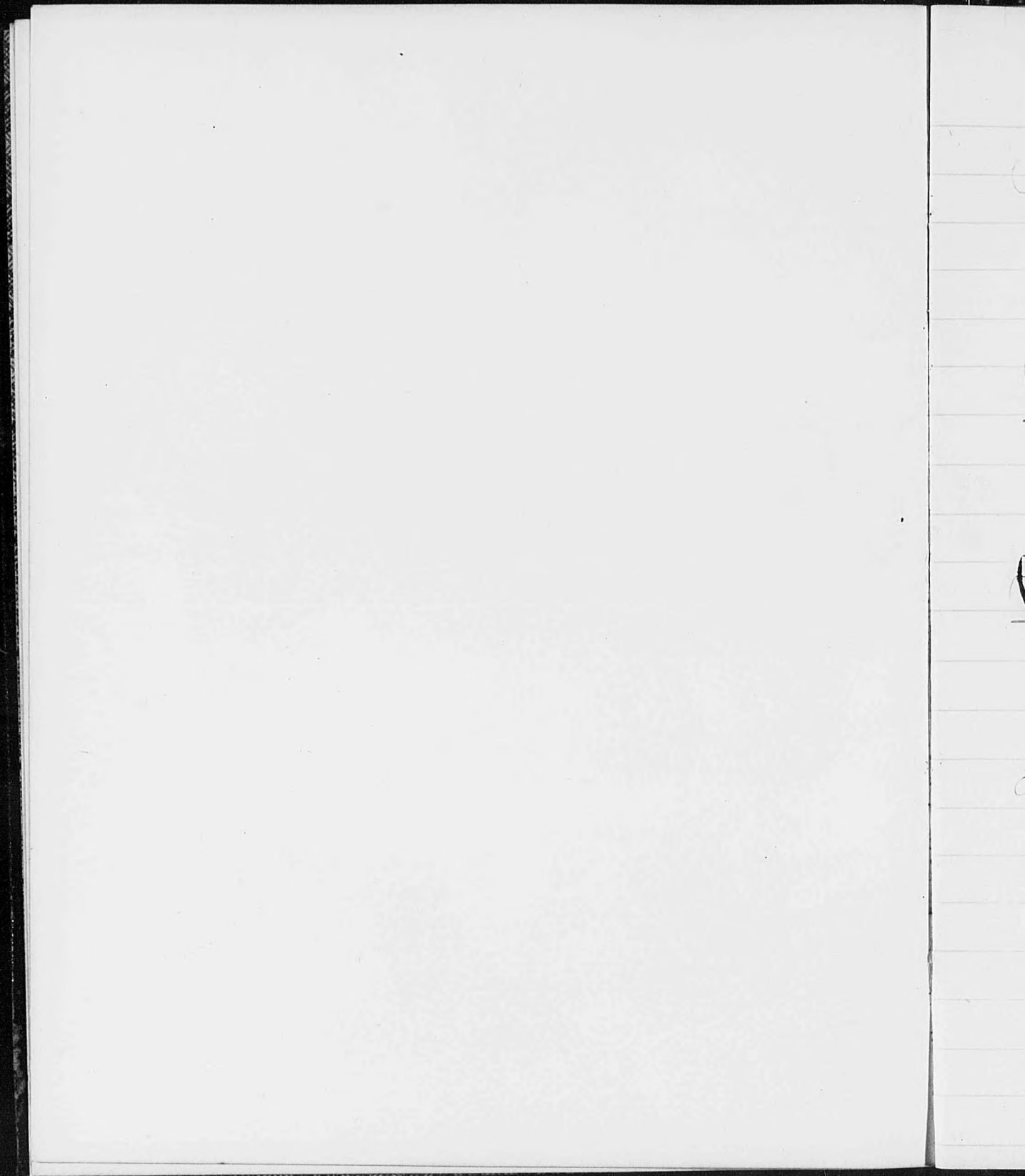


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This Book

Contains a Brief Account of the Last Sickness

Disease, And Funeral

Of Our Beloved Mother, Edwys Betsy Beles.

Also, Inspired

Communications and Songs, Received from Her Spirit

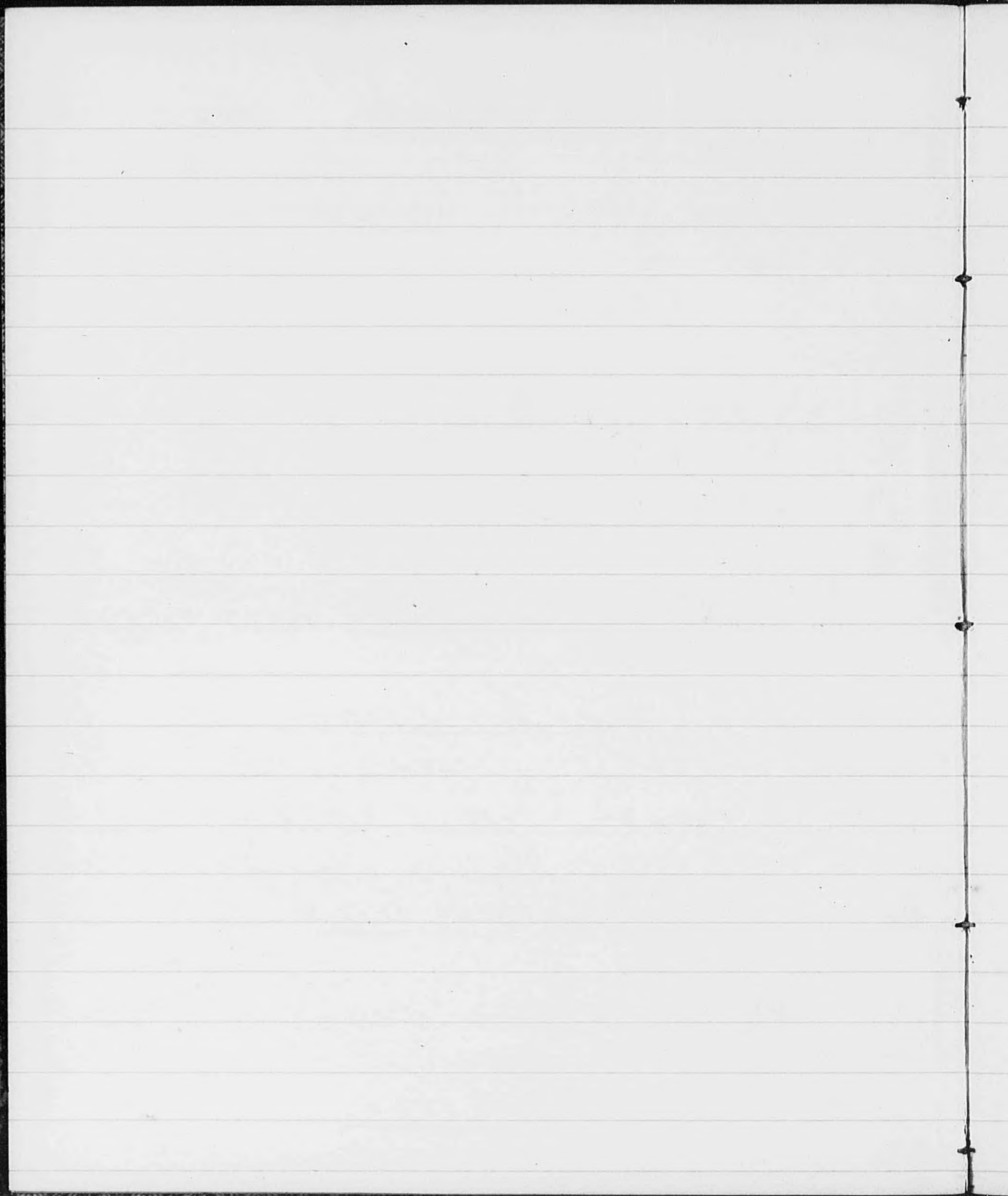
After her Disease.

With Copies and Extracts of Letters from Other Families

Referring to Her.

Copied at the Second Family, Mount Lebanon.

May 23<sup>rd</sup> 1869.



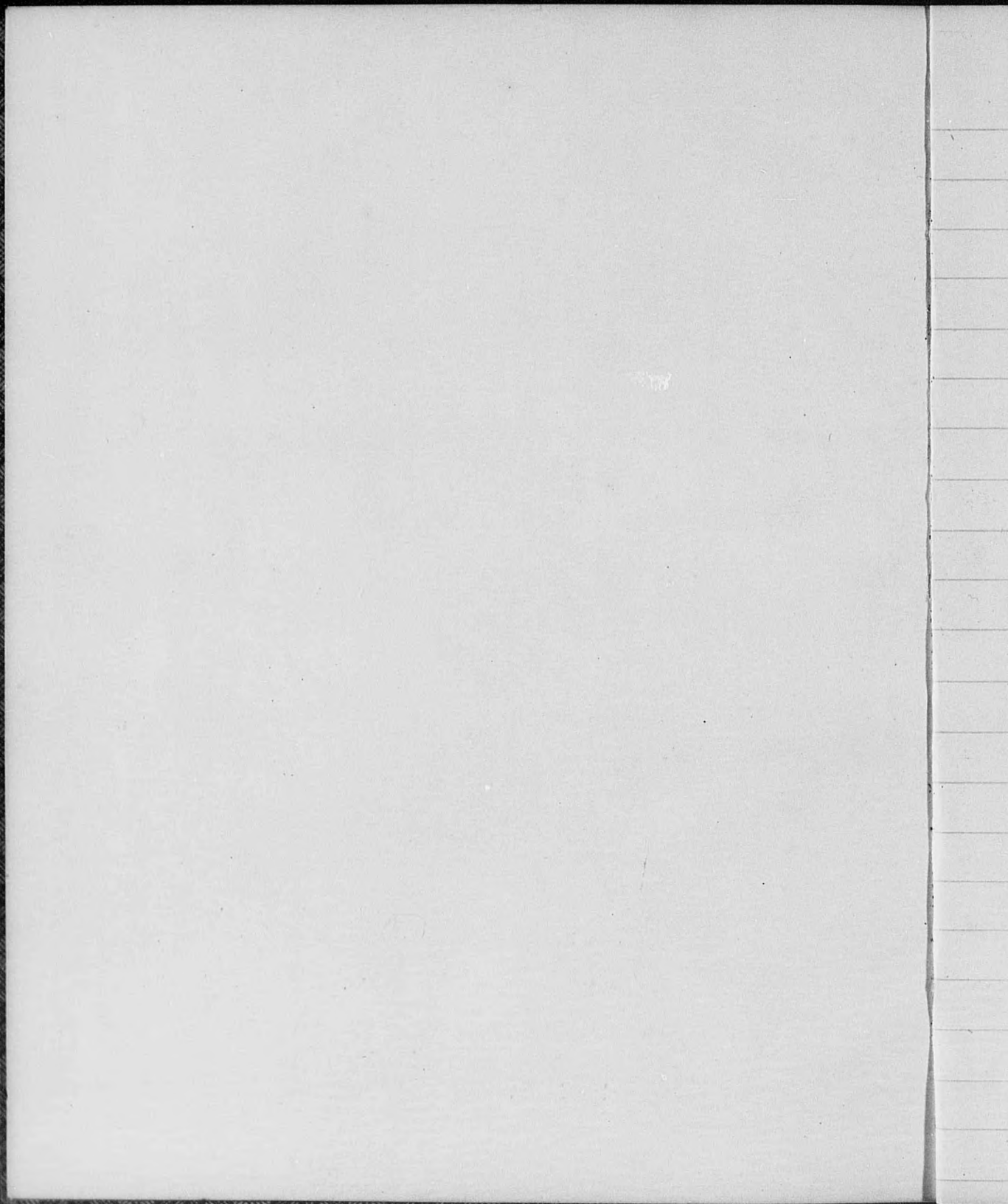
1

An account of Eldress Betsey Bates last sickness  
From December 10<sup>th</sup> 1868.

The Ministry returned from Water-  
Orbit to Mount Lebanon Dec 10<sup>th</sup>. Eldress Betsey had  
a very heavy cold on her lungs, but kept around & attended  
to all the duties of her place until Friday the first of January.

She left her work soon after dinner, and retired to the  
Meeting House to lie down, soon and sickness require her to  
keep her room. Tuesday 3<sup>th</sup> our Elder Sisters went down to  
visit her found her in the Meeting House very ill. Monday Jan 11<sup>th</sup>  
Eldress Ann, and Sister Amy Reed came over in the morning re-  
questing Sister Maria Stewart's assistance (Our Physician Sister,)  
as Eldress Betsey was no better. Maria went, staid two days,  
returned home and Saturday 16<sup>th</sup>, went again to Eldress Betsey,  
and gave her close attention three weeks and four days.

On Monday Feb 10<sup>th</sup> she rode out accompanied with Eldress  
Ann & Sister Maria the first time she had been out for five weeks  
and three days, she rode thro' the Village and made a short call at  
every family. Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> rode around the hollow Eldress Ann  
and Eldress Polly went with her. Friday 12<sup>th</sup> She again rode through  
the Village Eldress Ann, & Sister Sarah W. Standish went with her.



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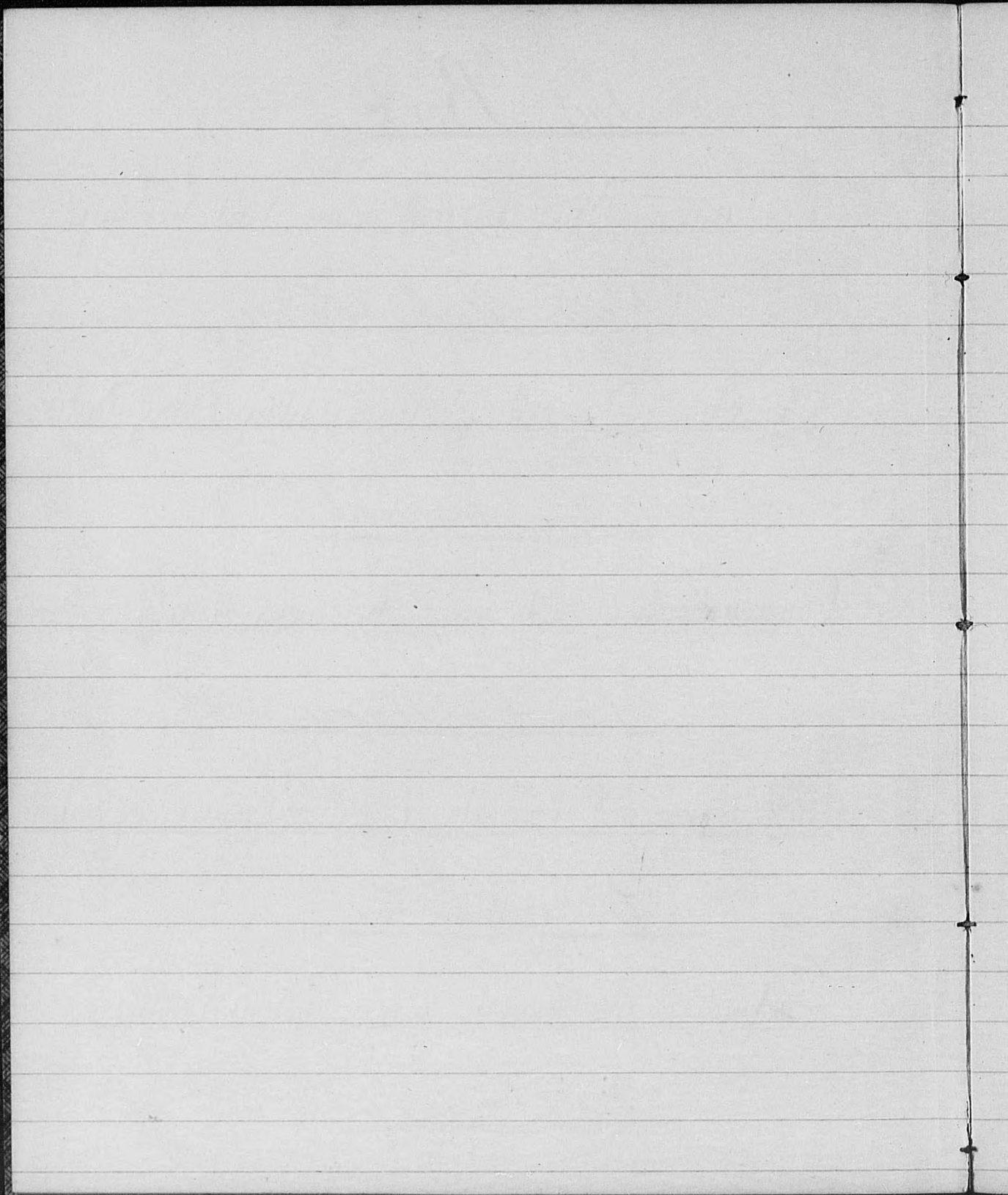
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They rode by our family and down the Canadian road about half a mile, when they returned our Sisters all went out and spoke to her and sang the little song given for the occasion commencing, "Cheerful joyful we will be &c". She appeared to feel much better and filled with love, which she imparted to all.

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> She went to the Infirmary took a bath and ate dinner. After dinner went to the Shop took her work out of the Machine and fixed her things to go to Waterloo.

But Alas! in the evening she began to sicken again, and all the bright rays of light seemed blasted for a season.

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> Eldress Ann & Sister Matilda Reed came for Maria to again return to Mother! Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup>

Ministry Brethren went to Waterloo, without any Sisters

Sabbath Feb'y 28<sup>th</sup> Eldress Betsey felt a gift for Eldress Ann to go to Waterloo and see the people in union with her request Monday, March 1<sup>st</sup> El<sup>d</sup> Ann and Sister Matilda R. with Br Edward F. start for W. V. expecting to return home

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> leaving Eldress Betsey with Maria <sup>and</sup> Mr Anyer.

Maria said she appeared more free from pain than at any previous time thro' her illness, the only change she noticed was wishing to be raised higher up in bed, complaining of a pressure to breathe when down.

## Her Death

Wednesday Morning March 3<sup>d</sup> she awoke and said, "What a good night's rest I have had, the pain is all gone from my side, I feel so much better." She arose the Sisters prepared a bath, or rather a washing off after which she went to bed and fell into a sweet sleep.

About 7 O'clock she awoke and seemed refreshed, arose from the bed and after dressing a little remarked "It seems to me I do not feel much like eating breakfast after all." She took her seat at the table and taking up the tea spoon to try a little sour jelly, which she did not get a taste of, exclaimed "Oh! something hurts my side, something has given away I am in great distress," and seemed convulsed throughout her whole system. Maria was alone with her at the time but in a moment St. Tabitha came to the door and went immediately for help which soon arrived.

But the Cruel Tyrant Death had aimed the dart  
Which sank forever in her heart,  
He threw the ridged Scy Chain around  
Thus was our loving Mother, snatched & bound.

She breathed about two hours sensible to all around her, and about a quarter past 9 O'clock took her demise from the earthly form!

A Messenger (Elder D. Craftsman) was immediately dispatched to Water Bleit with the sad news! He returned same evening

March 3<sup>rd</sup> The Ministry return from Waterbury, accompanied with Elder Austin Buckingham, Eldress Elizabeth H. and Eldress Lavina Salisbury from that place to attend the funeral of our Dearly Beloved Parent.

Funeral was held in the Meeting House by all the society March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### Mother's Cheerful Song.

How thankful great we will be In Mother's love that makes us free  
 And clothes us with simplicity This is our morning.  
 We find her pleasant paths of peace Do yield an hundred fold increase  
 Make all discordant sounds to cease And hush the voice of mourning.

The musical notation is written on a five-line staff with a treble clef and a common time signature (C). It features a melody line with various note values (quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes) and rests. There are also some decorative flourishes and a double bar line at the end of the piece.

Sung to Eldress Betsey March 12<sup>th</sup> 1869. Before the Dwelling House at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Family, by a few of the Brethren and nearly all of the Sisters who went out to see her.

Received by Ann Pugsby. March 12<sup>th</sup> 1869.

# Funeral Proceedings

Commencing at 2 O'clock P.M. March 5<sup>th</sup>

I should not call it a funeral, there are no funerals among the Angels. It was a heavenly meeting, and to you who were not present, I would be glad to show you my heart's record of it.

But words cannot give the incense of the flower, the song of the Bird, or the light of the sunbeam. How much further do they fail from presenting and portraying the things which are only spiritually discerned and understood.

We entered the porch at the Meeting house and looked for the last time on the earthly face of our beloved Mother. Calm and beautiful it was. Sickness and the hand that stole the spirit away, left no trace of their visit. A paleness rested on the fair face, and the eyelids were closed as if in a gentle slumber. I noticed how perfectly she was arranged! It had been done by those sorrowful ones whose labors of love surrounded her. No stranger's hand had touched her. The little white chest, that contained the mortal form, and was to be its last resting place, was made by her devoted children. Love and Simplicity combined even in these little external things to soothe the feelings. We passed into the Meeting room it was arranged with chairs (which formed a hollow square) and were placed in ranks

as we stand in Society Meeting). All the families were in attendance. Elders from Waterbuck three in number. Elder Thomas D. with a company of Elders Brethren and Sisters from Hancock, were also welcome visitants there. The first entered and moved noiselessly to their seats. There was a dim light over the assembly, and a suppressed sorrow which lent to the moments of waiting, a solemnity and power such as I think never rested on this earth before.

It seemed as if the very air, whispered the approach of the Lords anointed. Elder Daniel & Elder Giles, always united appeared at this time clothed in a sorrow so Christlike that they were as one. Eldress Ann came alone! I thought she had paused to look at the dear, still face of the dead, e'er she met the anxious tenderness of the living. She came not in tears, but with a smile of heavenly fortitude. A spiritual light covered her from head to foot and she moved as we might imagine a childlike spirit would move thro' its eternal home. And is not love the eternal home of the soul? Yea truly it is. Every heart forgot its own bereavement and turned its best feelings and sympathies to sustain the precious Parents of Zion. It was then I realized that gospel sorrow could be as unselfish as gospel love. Our good Father Elder Daniel inquired if we were all there, and if Elder Richard was coming? Elder Frederick said a low May.

Then Elder Daniel opened the Meeting by saying "I am thankful to see you brethren & Sisters, altho we have met on a solemn occasion to pay the last tribute of love and respect to the remains of our beloved Eldress Betsey & to commemorate her virtues. He spoke of her as being indeed a Mother in Israel. Of the spotlessness of her life, of her kindness & love, her sincerity, & justice, her patience and endurance that never failed, her boldness & steadfastness in the cause; of her strict adherence to principle, her treasure in her brethren & Sisters, her cheerfulness and agreeableness as an associate. He said we should not mourn, but make her life our example. His voice was frequently broken by his emotion and his tears fell fast while he was speaking. Yet he said he felt no cause of grief, for Eldress Betsey's spirit would not go from us but would still be with us and minister to us. She had passed thro' a change which we call death; but it was only a loosening of the spirit from the body, Eldress Betsey had gone home to the rest of the righteous. Elder Giles spoke most affectionately of our Mother.

Said that when he awoke at half past three in the morning, the words of the Psalmist were forced upon his mind. "The King's daughter is all glorious within her clothing is of wrought gold." He spoke of the Ark that was made of precious wood then covered with gold both inside, and outside and likened Eldress Betsey to it. Said she had made her body and her soul a temple for the spirit of God. She had the principles of the



gospel inwardly, and its gifts and graces outwardly, which was a witness of the ruling spirit within. He also spoke of her being consecrated by her natural parents at an early age, as was <sup>the prophet</sup> Samuel, of her early training, and the obedience which she rendered. Again & again he spoke of her Mother spirit; and we wept with him as we wept with Elder Daniel.

Eldress Anne said of the testimonies which had been borne of Eldress Betsey, that they were all true every word: that too much could not be said of her virtues. I could not hear any more but I felt the love & sorrow of her spirit, and the whole tide of my heart flowed to her. Elder Daniel Craftman, in his simple heart felt way expressed his love for our Mother and for the remaining Ministry. He spoke most weightily of their heavy burdens, & of their need of support, of his confidence in the gift of God and his determination to sustain & bless it, yet the sacrifice called for be ever so great. Elder Calvin Reed united with him, spoke with a spirit of devotion to the cause & to the Order of God. He showed the relationships, (some what,) that exists between Ministry & Elders, and how the latter could increase the labors of Ministry, or make them light, just in proportion to our obedience and reconciliation to the gift vested in them. He tenderly spoke of Eldress Betsey.

She was always merciful to those who were willing to confess & forsake sin, and when she reproved and chastened, it was in love. Everyone who felt for Zion, or its sorrowing burden bearers was strengthened by the testimonies.

Happy Change, Faithful Heirs, Our Mother Gone, were the principle songs sung. Elder Giles read some lines which had been inspired by our Mother. They had their impress upon them, and lifted my soul away to the Better Land.

Thus The Valediction

A parent form is from our circle gone,  
And we Alas! are left our loss to mourn;  
The form is gone! The spirit lingers yet;  
How can I leave what I cannot forget?  
We think I feel the touch, the sound I hear,  
Brethren and Sisters, to you I am near;  
My earthly form consign to silent tomb:  
But with you yet my spirit finds a home.

2<sup>nd</sup>

O faithful Ones, with whom I've shared my care,  
Tuck for a Moment, and with patience hear;  
Joyful, I tell you that my soul finds rest,  
I meet my blessed Mother, I am blest.

For many years it has been my constant care,  
 For this eventful moment to prepare;  
 The time has come; thank God, I'm ready found!  
 Earth, I can leave thee! Friends, to you, I'm bound.

3

O Elders, Brethren, Sisters, every one,  
 Prepare, prepare, to find your spirit home,  
 No sacrifice I've ever made in vain,  
 No self-denying act, now gives me pain,  
 No rigid craft, against a carnal life,  
 Brings sorrow, that I've entered in the strife;  
 O my dear friends, my Mother says to me,  
 My little child, I find it well with thee.

4

Young people dear, my sympathetic prayer,  
 Is for your welfare; Of earth's ties beware;  
 Flee, flee the shadow of a worldly sense,  
 Obey the by laws, set for your defence  
 Obey to your Elders, All your sins confess,  
 Thus you will grow in grace & righteousness,  
 Renounce all worldly vanity and pride,  
 And safely in the Lord's pavilion hide.

5<sup>th</sup>

Dear gospel Hindred on the Mount of Sale,  
Take take my blessing, nor my loss bewail,  
God's will be done, on earth as tis in Heaven!

Be this your prayer, in meekness strength is given,  
Remember still, the Ark of God must rest,  
Amid your tents, In blessing you are blest,  
Stretch not a hand to steady it, but pray,  
That Wisdom guide it, in Her righteous way

6

Accept my thanks, each precious favor I see,  
For all your many favors, done for me,  
For me, small name, I am but one of you,  
The Order, is the point from which I view,  
Yea every understanding act of love,  
Done to God's Order, Mother doth approve  
And like the Cup to the Disciple given  
Becomes your joining, to the Saints in Heaven.

7

Farewell loved Ones, I must bid you adieu,  
The curtain falls which parts me from your view,  
I hear the summons, and the call obey.

To join my Parent, in Eternal day,  
 Farewell dear Friends, the struggle is severe,  
 For me to leave, while you're remaining here,  
 With courage fail; the faithful all will come,  
 Where we shall meet, in a blest happy home."

### Angelic Counsel.

"I hear the Angels saying, faint not amid the gloom,  
 Bear up, in times of sorrow, and Heavenly help will come  
 Bear up, bear up, the Angel bands,  
 'Till blest united hearts, and hands,  
 And nothing evil can be tide,  
 If Zion will in God confide."

Elder Amos, spoke meekly but firmly in support of the Gift of God, and of the duty resting upon all to put away party spirit & one sided union, and to bear the burdens together. He spoke of his acquaintance with Eldress Betsey, of her devoted Godly life. Elder Daniel called on Elder Frederick to speak, who, when he arose, stood for a moment to conquer his emotional feelings, then blessed the testimonies of Ministry & Elders and said, "Our Mother was indeed a Mother in Israel; she was my Mother. That simple sentence shook volumes, and brot' floods of silent tears from eyes that do not

often weep. He then testified that he had felt a ministration from  
 Eldress Betsey's spirit, and he felt confident that she will be a pow-  
 erful Minister to Zion, and be a means and medium of connecting  
 the Church of God on earth with the invisible Church of God in the  
 Heavens more closely. The Brethren & Sisters understand my views  
 on this subject. I believe there is an organized body or Church  
 in the Spirit World a pattern after which the Church on earth is  
 fashioned. A Church, with its different Orders, families or Circles,  
 and each Order & Society, receive ministrations from its corresponding  
 source, or fountains in the Heavens. And as Eldress Betsey was not  
 confined in her labors to Lebanon, but was a Minister & Mother  
 to the whole Israel of God on earth, so would she continue to be, for  
 she knows Zion's needs, and will be able to accomplish far more  
 now than when in the body. She will bring a baptism of fire  
 and repentance which is so much needed. Elder Giles then requested  
 in the name and spirit of our departed Mother to have the Anthem  
 sung, "Those who have left all their sins behind." He said he knew  
 she desired to have it sung. Bro James Calver paured forth the  
 burden of his heart. It was not only for the loss of a dear Mother that  
 was gone, that he sighed, but for all the Fathers & Mothers that must  
 soon follow her. It was for the cause of God that would soon be left,  
 for those who are young to maintain. He prayed that all might be

faithful to do their own work, and be able to help those who are still younger and weaker than themselves. He sank upon his knees and in tears begged the prayers of Ministry, Elders, Brethren & Sisters. He knelt, and even the "Angels" fell prostrate and lowered their wings." Elder Daniel said, "it was a true gift and blessed it." said, "it is well with Eldress Betsey, by faithfulness she had woven a garment of righteousness, thread by thread which she now wears; he hoped the young would follow her example."

Elder Sisters of First Order, and Second Family, spoke, but I could not hear one word this I regretted. Elder Daniel asked for love for Eldress Ann, said that Eldress Betsey's mantle would rest on her, and she must be blest. She stepped out of her place and turned around, while her face was radiant with glory. The brightness that was upon her, when she first came into meeting was still upon her. We needed not the form to typify the Holy One. We saw the increased spirit of the dove that has so long had its abode in her heart; and we heard in the depths of our hearts the approval of Heaven.

"This is our beloved One in whom I am well pleased." Turning and bowing she said in a clear soft voice, I will promise you to be an obedient Child, just as those who know me best, can

witness, I have always tried to be." I felt and saw at this moment the power of love, of Eternal love. She asked for love for her companions when appointed and anointed. It seemed as if the people gave more than a human store, that they were Channels through which the love of Angels might and did flow. I thought of Believers everywhere and that' tho' altho they might not be apprised of our sorrow, still they had a part in this gift of love.

B<sup>r</sup> Timothy very feelingly united with, and blessed B<sup>r</sup> James C<sup>s</sup> gift and called upon the young to make a Covenant of Consecration to God with him. Elder Frederick recommended B<sup>r</sup> James' feelings & said, We need not fear for Zion while we have such fruits as Eldress Belsey to send into the Spirit World.

Elder Thomas Duggan, with grace and sincerity offered a tribute of praise and love to our Mother: in the fervor of his love and zeal, he clasped himself among the young who are working for God. Who would help lift the burdens that are to be borne?

The spirit of life within him made him young, and caused us to forget his silvery locks. I shall not forget his appearance as he turned to the young and said, "Will it always be an honor to you, not to be able to even bear your own burdens? And the intensity with which he answered his own question, while he called upon all to awaken & sustain the Order of God.



The Elders from Hornsack and Waterliet, spoke beautifully from the same fountain they breathed forth love, and dependence on God's Order. Elder Frederick gave love from Canterbury & Enfield. Eldress Sarah A. Lewis spoke in a gift for Eldress Betsey, we felt a witness of her presence and ended with farewell for this time. Eldress Antoinette with her soul full, opened anew, the fountain of our tears as she touchingly recounted the virtues of our Mother.

The spoke of her liberality; said she was not what would be termed a conservative. She never barred the door against any increase that might come to Zion, was always willing to admit anything that would make the daughters of Zion more like the Angels, but was unwilling to have them pattern after the World. She wanted her Children to be chaste and pure in everything. That she was prudent and considerate, when anything new was presented to her she looked at it, weighed and measured it before giving her decision. I loved her, said Eldress Antoinette with all the love I was capable of feeling for any human being. She was a thousand times dearer to me than any natural parent ever was, or could be. I have recalled to mind this day our Society Meeting two years ago, when our beloved

Eldress Betsey, fell on her knees and with uplifted hands cried to God for the young of the flock, that they might receive a baptism of Conviction and repentance. God heard that prayer, it was fervent and effectual, it was answered! Such a heart-searching work as I never witnessed before passed through our family, & Order. Young people came forward asking it as a privilege to confess their sins; and they did it in the gift and power of God and it was the salvation of some. Eldress B. spoke further but my spirit was too much stirred for my ears to hear more. We sang a song commencing, "I will live unto the Lord, I will die unto the world." Eldress Betsey's own song. Elder Giles then read beautifully with deep pathos the following verses breathing hope and encouragement.

### Reflections

We sorrow not in wild despair,  
 Though heavy is our woe and loss,  
 We in our heavenly Parents care,  
 Bow low and take the cross,  
 For greater greater than our grief,  
 Is that deep love our spirits feel,  
 'Tis God's own gift that gives relief,  
 And meets the anguish that we feel.

2

Our Mother, we will love, not mourn,  
 Her life shall be our guide, and light,  
 Her precepts that our hearts to have borne,  
 Shall keep us in the right,  
 Shall keep the walls of Zion strong,  
 And ward off every worldly thing,  
 Reveal the source of hidden wrong,  
 And judgement to the plummet bring.

3

She loves the holy cause on earth,  
 And she will send the strength it needs,  
 Her hand will train each plant of worth,  
 And help us to destroy the weeds,  
 It is a time to do, and bear,  
 Our common sorrow blends our hearts,  
 The heavy burden that we share,  
 A weight of love imparts.

4

We feel our union, Sacred Band!  
 We feel a love that cannot die,  
 We see the heavenly life beyond,  
 The trials that before us lie,

O Mother! Thou hast glided o'er,  
 The voiceless, soundless deep,  
 We stand upon the shadowy shore,  
 And bless thee, while we weep.

5

The Angels lift the clouds of earth,  
 And show the glories of that place,  
 Where blooms the flowers of heavenly birth,  
 Where we shall meet thee face to face.

Amen.

At this time, the quiet light of the silver grey sky was dispelled by a burst of golden sunshine thro' the west windows, I never saw light so resplendent so radiant with beauty as it rested on the Brethren & Sisters: and I thought it was an omen of brighter days to come a sign from beyond the pearly gates.

It seemed to be deeply impressed on Eld<sup>r</sup> Frederick's feelings that Elders Betsey would be a Minister of the gift of Conviction & repentance to Zion. Elder Giles felt a witness of the same, and exhorted the young people to seek confession and repentance, and not wait to be forced into it. God loves the cheerful giver. Elders Betsey had been a free

volunteer in the work; and all would do well to follow her example. She had been brave and strong! from the hour she came out of her Father's house, she had never turned to it, or looked back to anything that belonged to a carnal life. Hearts that did not respond to his appeal, (if there were any such,) ought to perish; for they were unworthy to be within its sound. (It was at this time we knelt and sang, "Hear O hear!") After kneeling, I distinctly saw our dear Mother walking around the hollow square bestowing love & blessing upon all far and near, and I made a vow in my heart to devote myself more fully to the work of God. To turn away from everything that her spirit could not own, to make my spirit so pure and unselfish that she could look into it at any moment and bless its efforts.

The Ministry returned thanks to the assembly for their attendance, also for every kind act and feeling tenderly bestowed on Elders's Betsey, during her sickness.

Every one received love: Love freely flowed to all far and near. It was a rich blessing and feast to be there; and those whose duties detained them from being present were remembered and blest. Again & again were our friends from

Waterbriet and Hancock the recipients of love and kindly greetings. Elder Frederick humbly solicited prayers & blessing from the assembly, for the Order of young Believers; and especially for the Elders of the Order, that they may have wisdom and strength to perform every duty to Gods acceptance.

Our Meeting continued about two hours and a half. The weather would not admit, of Sisters following the corpse to the grave. It fell upon the brethren to perform the last solemn duty, that of filling the grave, which themselves had dug on the first days of <sup>our</sup> sorrow. No stranger's hand had touched that either. O Blessed gospel that includes, Labour and Love! While the Brethren bore the Coffin to its final resting place the Sisters spent their time in greeting each other and renewing the bands of union and Christian fellowship.

Since the funeral Eldress Ann said to Elder F. that Eldress Betsey, during her last illness, expressed a strong desire, that a gift of true repentance, might be reached by the people.

It was much needed and believers would perish without it. It was a confirmation of this Gift. There was much more that was instructive & interesting spoken. I will just add that Elder Daniel felt a gift for us to kneel and pray, that Eldress Betsey, and other good ministering spirits might draw

near to us. B<sup>r</sup> Timothy struck in a subdued tone the sweet notes of "Hear & hear my humble prayer" and many voices joined in harmony & there was not a ripple or discordant sound but a gentle flow of deep feeling and love to God to our departed friend and Mother and to our good Ministry who were with us, to our Brethren and Sisters who were present and to the whole household of faith.

There were twenty Elders who spoke concerning the deceased. F. Funeral from 2 O'Clock to 4 1/2 P.M.

It was the coldest day for the winter of 68 or 69 Mercury at 6 O'Clock A.M. 8 below zero

## Mount Lebanon First Order.

A Prophecy March 25<sup>th</sup> 1865

As I was picking up my alls or my clothes to move from the Office to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Order while passing from the South East room I heard a voice saying, thus.

"In Eighteen Sixty Eight, Every thing will be made straight." It struck me with a chill, not understanding it. But Elders Betsey's <sup>spirit,</sup> directly came before me - and I passed out in silence.

In 1868. Elders Betsey finished her whole mission, which took until Decr 31<sup>st</sup>. And on January 1<sup>st</sup> 1869 she went into the Meetinghouse from which she never returned, except to spend a few hours. And on March 3<sup>d</sup> she left the shores of time.

In 1868 The 2<sup>nd</sup> Order's New house was finished and the family were all located in it.

On March 9<sup>th</sup> 1869 I moved back to the 1<sup>st</sup> Order my former home. And thus I felt the Mission was verified to me.

Sarah A. Lewis



Mount Lebanon, First Order.

Words Repeated at Midnight hours

Jan<sup>y</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> 1867.

Fifty righteous souls shall be called home,  
 And many more shall be called soon,  
 And those who're left will realize,  
 That <sup>re.</sup> Lions number still will rise;  
 A remnant will be called forth,  
 From all the nations of the earth;  
 And Lions light, again shall be  
Convey'd across the rolling sea.

As near as could be ascertained this number were  
 called home in the course of the year, in the differ-  
 ent Societies. And many of them were and had  
 been, prominent members and burden bearers in society.

Of this I can bear witness Sarah A. Lewis.

Mount Lebanon, Second Family.  
 A Visionary dream February 10<sup>th</sup> 1869

The New Jerusalem in beautiful array  
 Is established here on earth in this latter day,

And who hath ought to say?

The Order and union, of the Queenly adorning,  
 Is earned and blessed by the hand divine  
 To remain the same throughout time.

Constant persecution has worn the constitution;

Of my true and Chosen One,

Who hath been faithful to obey, and now her work is done,  
 She will be called home, and that without delay,

To spare pure eye for the day.

Emeline Astron

Words Spoken by our Good Mother Deviah Spire,  
 in Elders Betsey's Funeral at Water Vliet. March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1869.

I now wish to say a few words in relation to our deceased Mother, Elders Betsey. She is one that I have known for a great many years. I lived in the room with her when she was a child, and noticed her manner of walk ever after.

She went forth voluntarily in the work of God, and united with her Father; when he set out to be a believer the rest of the family hung back; but she united with him in worship and prayer; she kneeled when he kneeled. She volunteered in the cause with him and has always been a true pillar in the house of God & an ornament to the gospel. I never knew her to flinch under the cross in any thing; but always went right straight along, & continued faithful from childhood up to old age. She was a Mother in Israel; Her charity & kindness to all was unbounded; & Oh! how she loved the spirit of honesty; She will have a great reward in Heaven. I feel that she is entitled, certainly to our very best love & thanks for her labors, & bright example.

May I be privileged to meet her in her heavenly home, is my sincere prayer.

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Elders Biny Received this Letter the Day Before the Trial.  
Opened, Read it, and Handed it to the Elders.  
The Last the Evr Read. March 2<sup>nd</sup> 1869.

Lab<sup>l</sup> Ev<sup>r</sup> Alfred. Maine, Feb 28<sup>th</sup>, 1869.

My Blessed of all Mothers,

Will it be a burden if your little girl comes in a few moments to see you? I want make a noise in the room to worry you, my feet shall put ciz on the floor while Mother is sick and I'll pray to Father above that my Mothers may live still longer to bless me and Lion; for I am all need. They have made me to know myself to feel my lack's & imperfections, not however by the chastening and strong hand of an unsubdued spirit, but by an example of humility, purity and gospel graces; and why, should I not love with my whole soul? And why should not all Lion, feel the need of souls upon earth, as well as in the Spirit Land, who have washed their robes white; they are all strength and beauty; Lion on earth need their light, wisdom, and

noble uninspiring powers, without show and ostentation, or the foolish airs of the proud and popular.

My Mothers are the noblest among woman, can I be parted from such refined and solid inspirations, as I receive from them? Not yet, Not yet my heart answers not yet. O how I would fly to you on Angels wings to smooth your pillows, build a little fire to keep you comfortably warm, wet a cloth and wipe your poor fevered hands and brow, to cool the heat within your temples, or else to put a jug of hot water to your feet, to draw the homely pressed feeling from your head; a good bath of leaves for your side, and, if this was not the best thing try something more powerful; and yet, I could not do as your ever dear Sisters could I know, but I should feel that I was right near, and perhaps should not worry as I now do, for to hear that you are worse than we knew for: I always feel best when I know my Mother is sick, for then I put in prayer with all my might to my heavenly Father, to my Parents in Heaven, and to every body there that I think wants Mother, that they would be quiet a while longer, and hope, my prayer will be listened to, It is so sensible

to pray in this way. My second Mother must be very far from sleeping soundly, her anxiety is so great fearing her dearest and nearest Sister on earth, may unexpectedly slip away, to the better land, where sickness, it is always said, is never known; it will take a long time for any of us to be prepared to be separated from loved ones, yet so will it be often times, and our sensitive natures are always troubled fearing storm disease will overtake us, or some of our friends which is as trying, ere we are ready to say "They will be done O God."

We will all try to be good while our Mothers are sick and be gentle and kind, this labor has for a long time been our theme; and we labor too, to impress the minds of all with this important attainment, if they would be happy themselves, they must make others happy. We are ever bearing testimony against our easy way of getting along, dulling the conscience to sleep that sin may abound, and the judgement there-of be not felt, but we keep the fire burning and the furnace heated; and the opposing spirit shall find his forces weakened and beat a retreat, for we will serve the Lord. We will "try to do something" and tho' like an unbroken Colt, the evil influence pulls this way & that, trying to thwart our good undertakings, we will never surrender

or lose courage; we have gained an inch, we may gain an ell; in keeping the Orders of Mother's house. We will use our Angel Writings to fan away every worldly way that we may find among us.

Many have been sick with the prevailing bad influenza but the writer has escaped it nearly.

We pray Sr Abigail is better ere this, we desire her to live longer to bless Lion.

In love always true

I am your daughter.

Hester A. Adams

Letter from Eldress Mary Ann Gillespie, received  
and read at the same time as the above.

Alfred, Feb 7 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1869.

Dearest of all Parents,

Eldress Betty & Eldress Ann.

How often we are reminded of you, your kindness, affection and love, and that spirit of deep charity and forgiveness, always so sweet to the erring. We are trying to possess the same, and to be clothed in garments of purity & meekness,

for these are white and clean. Just such as our dear Mothers are wearing.

We are very sorry to learn that you have been sick, and if we were only nearer, how gladly would we try to do some little kindness for you, altho we know that your dutiful children <sup>are</sup> right close by your side, yet we should claim that it was our right to do something.

We are hoping that we shall see you by and by. Winter is fast passing away, February leaves us to day, but March is always very trying, its chilly and searching winds, make one feel very unpleasant, especially if they are feeble in health. We have thus <sup>far</sup> had quite a reasonable winter, but within a week or ten days much snow has fallen, so that the Cars have not been the usual prompt on time. B<sup>r</sup> Hewitt started at 5 O'clock in the morning to go to the City, one day last week, but did not reach there untill 6 O'clock in the evening, having to remain perfectly still in one spot, with nothing to eat or drink, or even a Newspaper to read, all that he had for a comfort was the tooth ache. Other circumstances similar have occurred. Almost every body have had a good supply of colds, but are now better.



The little Girls were real sick. We have recently taken two pretty little girls into the Church here, Annie & Maggie Steadfast, and we hope they will remain steadfast in the faith. Their Parents are both dead and a Step Mother gave them to us, she appears to have cared for them well, rather poor as regards clothing, but with some sense of goodness, for one of them asked to pray, and together they repeated their long prayer with much solemnity, this is a rare occurrence in this day, among children whom we take. Their ages are nine & ten.

We are looking towards the great day of ingathering of souls with hopefulness and we anxiously desire, that we may have some part in it, for we are as needy as any branch of Zion, of more laborers to work in our field. Persons of sound mind and bright intellect who are able to do good.

Only few of the Aged remain to help us, their days of labor and toil are ended, but they live to encourage and bless in this place.

Sisters Lucy Nowell, Eliza Ring, & Prudence Hodgdon, Lucy & Prudence are just about the same helpless, but Eliza still mends and knits all the

Mittens for Brethren's wear, and Knits some footings for sale.

Sister Jane Tarbox at 2<sup>nd</sup> Family tho' feeble in body, is alive in spirit and useful with her hands.

At Poland Hill Sister Charity Palmer was thought to be failing in health, but report says she is gaining a little, and we are well pleased, for what would poor Lydia do without her, she is the sunshine of the office, and a great blessing in the family.

Now Dear Elders Betsey, & Elders Ann in conclusion I would say in our meeting this afternoon, we sung and labored a song for you, and Elders Hoester spoke very feelingly of our duty to you as our gospel Parents, and of that obedience, which we should make manifest in our lives. You have taken so much pains to bring us up on a higher plane and learn us the way of God as Mother taught it to her followers, and as it is kept in its purity at Mount Lebanon thus we will strive to keep it.

With the love of the Elders & People, and ourselves included I close.

Yours as ever

Mary Ann G.



Mount Lebanon  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Family March 7<sup>th</sup> 1869.

Words spoken by Eldress Betsey.  
 To Sister Emeline Ostrom.

My joy is unspeakable! My soul is filled with glory!  
 O! the Crown of rejoicing that is placed upon me.  
 For devoting my life time. My whole strength and talent  
 In serving my Creator in sincerity.

Every one that will be faithful, in the upholding of Yield  
 By strengthening the weak, and comforting the Strong  
 Shall receive their reward when their labours here are ended  
 They will enter into the joy of the Lord.

Emeline Ostrom.

Mount Lebanon 2<sup>nd</sup> Family March 10<sup>th</sup> 1869.

This morning Elder Daniel and Elder Giles return to Water Vliet. Our Beloved Eldress Ann being very needy of care, and Medical assistance, came to stay with Sister Maria Stewart a few days.

The following Songs, and Communications

Were Received from Eldress Betsey for

Eldress Ann During her stay

At 2<sup>nd</sup> Family.

March 13<sup>th</sup> 1869. By Charlotte Sharp  
While the family were eating breakfast, I saw a sister come up the hill, from the North, and go to the Elder Sisters shop. I informed Eldress Annella, who immediately went to see who it was, thinking some one had come from the Church. But not finding

any person she mentioned it to Eldress Ann, who said it was our Beloved and faithful Parent Eldress Palsey.

This was soon after confirmed by the following song.

In the Heavens of Heavens thy name is enrolled

— e — e — e — d — e | e

And thou art receiving rich treasures untold.

e | q | q | q | q | a — a — a — e | d — e — e |

In thy path I have strown sweet comfort each day.

Bright spirits are guarding thee all the way.

— e — e — d — e — e | q | q | d | e — e |

From Eldress Palsey, to her Dear Eldress Ann, with a basket of love.

Charlotte Sharp.

Lines from Eldress Betsey to Eldress Anna  
March 13<sup>th</sup> 1869. By Caroline Sharp.

1<sup>st</sup> Dear Eldress Anna I do love you.

You've been to me so good and true:

In health and sickness, life and death.

You were my All! my very breathe!

2<sup>nd</sup> From your kind hands, and loving heart

How oft relief you did impart.

When deep distress filled my whole frame,

My soul felt like the Lamb that was slain.

I found you always by my side; Oh there is nothing can divide, 1<sup>st</sup>

Our spirits for they are as one.

And where I've gone, there you shall come.

3<sup>rd</sup> When here on earth your labours cease,

I'll guide you to a home of peace.

So be ye comforted my dear, I know you feel me very near.

I shall not go so far away, But I shall see you every day.

Caroline Sharp.

2<sup>nd</sup> Family Holy Mount.

Answer to a Letter Written by <sup>Sr</sup> Sarah Bates  
To Eldress Ann.

Holy Mount March 14<sup>th</sup> / 69.

Beloved Parent

True are thy words, that every feeling  
of thy soul is to comfort and soothe, not only my sorrows,  
but all, both great and small, as far as in thee lies.

Dost thou think thy love shall unrequited remain?  
Say! I hear a gentle voice say, Peace and Comfort  
are thine.

Thy dear Eldress Peter.

1<sup>st</sup> Altho my poor body is laid in the Earth.  
My Spirit is with you, then why feel a dearth.  
Grieve not that I'm taken, say God's will be done.  
My Mantle, has fallen on a lovely One.  
Ah! my Staff of Pure Gold, on this thou mayest lean  
This is Dear Eldress Ann, she is Spotless All clear.  
And then there's a little Lamb, placed by her side.  
For Wisdom I leave you with them, for your guide.

2<sup>nd</sup> If thou couldst but know, how much thou hast given



To honor thy Father, on earth and in Heaven,  
 Why! thou hast like Isaac, offered thy All!  
 And shall I not hear thee, when e'er thou dost call?  
 For all that I've taken, four fold I'll restore,  
 I never my loved one think thou art poor,  
 When I finish the mission, I have to fulfill,  
 Perhaps I may leave you, should it be Gods will.

3<sup>d</sup>

But I am at present appointed to stay  
 To comfort and strengthen you all, in Gods way  
 Now I'll tell you one thing, I thought would be craft,  
 For I felt every heart string pull! fore and aft.  
 And when the good Ministry, went to the Vale,  
 I also journeyed, my dear friends to hail!  
 But now I've returned again to the Mount  
 And I'm laden with blessing right from the Fount

4<sup>th</sup>

From good Elder Daniel I gathered a crumb  
 And Elder Giles, also did give me some  
 From all the good Elders, I gathered a store  
 I'll give it all to you, for I can get more  
 Now Dear Sister Sarah, I've one word to say

My Dear Elders Ann was my life and my stay.

But the time has arrived when my Dad must repose

And she hath more honour, than Princeps or Queen.

5<sup>th</sup> She carried my burdens by night and by day.

She opened the doors and she cast up the way.

A Mother in Yon I'll count her to be.

To love you all onward, as she has loved me.

And Dear Elders Polly's the One of my choices.

It is the Appointment and let all rejoice!

Go, tell Elders Sarah, that I'm satisfied.

I know her I know that her soul is well tried

I love her I bless her I bless the whole lot

My Dear loving Elders you'll never be forgot. P. P.

Now Dear Sister Sarah.

As I began to write

Elders Petsey stepped in and thus I have written

Now I want to give you my sweetest Love, thanks and

blessing, and will you give to the Dear Elders, and to all

that you may feel to. Remember the Sisters Prinda and Elizabeth

I feel comforted with the notice in your letter. Tell Elders Polly I am

a little better, so as to be able to visit some this afternoon. I will come

in spirit and in body, now as the good Sisters think best. E. J.

Written by Ann Parzby.

Words Spoken for Eldress Betsey in Meeting  
 At the 2<sup>nd</sup> Family Holy Mount March 14<sup>th</sup> 1849.  
 By Eldress Marilla Fairbanks.

Be cheerful and joyful Brethren and Sisters, I have come to attend meeting with you, laden with love. I have been to every society, and every family since I left you, and I gathered love from all that stood confessed, and truly joined to their Lord.

It was easy to gather love from them, and I can now see very plainly who they are. Some keep covered very sleek, with a covering that is not of the spirit. I shall now see and know all such. There will be no hatred with those who keep a just joining, not a particle. Love Love! Brethren and Sisters, and comfort for all the faithful!

If there are any that feel hatred to any one, it is a sure Criterion that they are not joined to their Lord by an honest confession of all sin.

I shall continue to help Zion's Children until all hatred and hard feelings are done away, and all are prepared for an increase. Then I shall go out into the world, and awaken souls to a sense of their Gaps and their need of righteousness and deliverance from sin.

Again Eldress Betsey addressed the family  
By Caroline Sharp.

Brethren and Sisters I left you some sooner than I expected too. Altho I felt that my work was nearly finished that I should have strength to perform.

I can now move around a great deal swifter than I could in the body, but I have not grown any larger, I am just what I always wanted to be, One of Mothers little simple children.

Oh my young friends do not labour for worldly things they will not enrich your souls, they will impoverish them and leave them destitute of the blessing. Do not labour for worldly things! but strive for the childlike simplicity of the gospel and the beautiful gifts of God.

I have love for you all in particular, at this time do I want to give my love to the Brethren.

She did so in a very feeling and affecting manner

Caroline

A few lines from Eldress Betsey March 15<sup>th</sup> 1869.

"Eldress Ann, My Dear, Wise can be comforted! Put on my wings, They will carry you.

'Tis my gift that you are here. I have a duty to do to speak to the Sisters (here) and then I must leave them with you, I can speak before Eldress Polly comes, or wait, just as you feel, but I want you present." B.B.  
By Ann Burby.

This Song was Sung to Eldress Ann March 14<sup>th</sup> / 69.  
 Received By Caroline Sharp from Eldress Betsey.  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Family Holy Mount.

A Ball of Love for Eldress Ann.

I have come to bring you a little ball of love

It was gathered and rolled in the Heavens above

In the Center you'll find a Balm that will heal

Do eat it and see how good you will feel.

A Welcome for Eldress Polly.

Welcome thou Chosen One, The Angels join the Chorus

We are ready to receive whatever may be for us

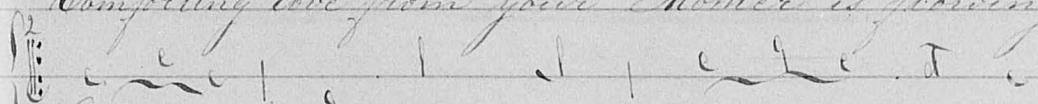
In humility and love, we bow before the Order

The Holy Anointed Ones That guard Mount Zion's border

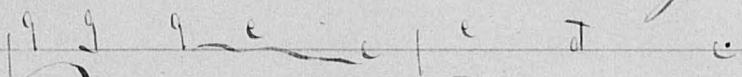
Received March 16<sup>th</sup> 1869. By Charissa Jacobs. 2<sup>nd</sup> Family

# A Comforting Song for the Ministry.

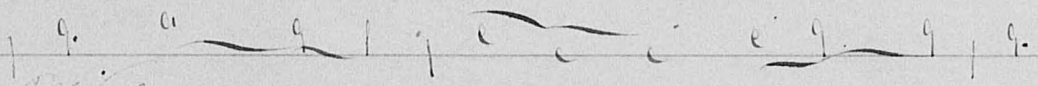
Comforting love from your Mother is flowing



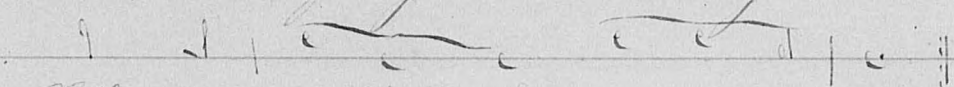
I receive it and be made glad



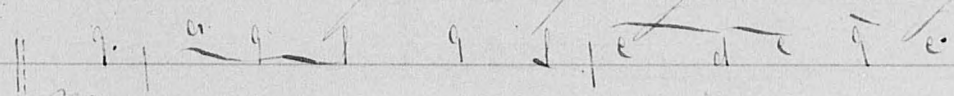
Beloved Elder Daniel and Elder Giles too



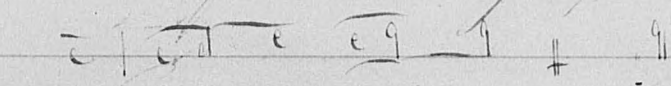
With this blessing and love be ye glad



The heavenly Dove upon you is resting



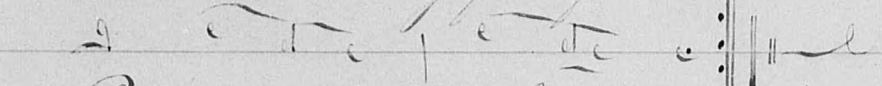
The holy unceasing power



We love it we bless it We'll ever support it



And how to the gift of God



Received March 16<sup>th</sup> 1869 : by Emily Smith

<p>The lot is now complete and square          This will uphold and daily bless,</p>	<p>The gift of God abideth there;          And thus, increase in righteousness.</p>
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Lines from Eldrop Betsy to Eldrop Polly.  
March 10<sup>th</sup> 1849.

1<sup>st</sup>. Hark! I hear a gentle voice,  
 Who can it be? it sounds so sweet,  
 Oh, it is our Mother Dear,  
 'Tis Eldrop Polly she wants to greet.

2<sup>nd</sup>. " My little one draw near to me,  
 And receive my heart felt love,  
 For you are my real choice,  
 My lovely harmless little dove.

3<sup>rd</sup>. I've loved you many, many years,  
 And now my spirit's left the clay;  
 I leave with you one Precious Gift,  
 Because I know you will obey.

4<sup>th</sup>. A sharp two edged sword you know,  
 Must be kept for all the young  
 If this testimony dies  
 Then will spring up every wrong.

5<sup>th</sup>. So faithful you have always been,  
So upright, & obedient too,  
 You have been my soul's delight,  
 I have confidence in you.

6<sup>th</sup>. To receive I say again,  
 My warmest thanks, my sweetest love,  
 When'er your labors close on earth,  
I'll guide you to the realms above.

7<sup>th</sup>. The sorrow you may often feel,  
 And deep tribulation roll,  
When know you have one loving friend,  
 That will soothe your weary soul.

By Caroline Sharp.



Lines from Eldrop Betsey to Sister Leah Taylor.

2<sup>nd</sup> Family March 17<sup>th</sup> 1869.

1<sup>st</sup>

Kind Sister Leah, do, once more

Come in, and do for me a chore.

I saw thee, standing at the door

Waiting my arrival.

See! here's my basket, full of fruit.

I brought it, that thou might recruit.

Give some to all, and don't be mute.

It is for a revival.

Of my kind love.

2<sup>nd</sup>

To thee, I cannot cease to give

My love and thanks, and as I live,

I will remember what thee did

To help me through the trial.

As I have always found thee true.

In all I've called on thee to do.

If I should call again, I know

Thou'd not give me denial.

Take my kind love.

Written by Ann Purdy.

# A Communication from Elders Belsing & Bates.

To Elders Ann, & Elders Polly.

April 1869.

My spirit is so full of affection for you and thankfulness to you, that I cannot keep a long silence. I know you will not be worried with me now, since we have labored, toiled, and suffered so many years together. We have walked hand in hand, we have seen eye to eye, yea, we have drunk of the same cup, whether sweet or bitter, you have always partaken with me, and I with you. By my side you have stood thro' hours of tribulation, and through hours of joy. How many, many times, you have answered my inmost breathings of soul, when not a vocal sound was uttered.

O how earnestly I thank you, again & again, for your tender, loving, watchful care for me, especially through my last remaining weeks.

That dear Angel hand! do reach it forth once more, and let me grasp it, as I was want to do, when my poor frame was bowed beneath a weight of affliction and disease, which I could not bear alone,

so dependent on the kind care of those loving hearts  
around my bedside. Love is a weak word to express my  
feelings to you, but Love can be understood, Ah! when  
you have finished your labors here, then we will enjoy  
that Love which needs no language to describe.

I have heard you ask in sympathetic accents  
thus, "Mother why does your spirit seem so sad"? It will  
tell you, since I have left you, (as mortals oft express  
it, altho' I have not left you) I have visited every place  
where any portion of the Lord's Vineyard has been  
planted, some have known me, others have not;  
I do not find that union of spirit, and Oneness of  
feeling, that I desire, in many places, especially with  
the Leaders. This is one great cause of my sad and sorrowful  
feelings. O the Leaders in Zion! Will they not be more  
united? Leaders in Spiritual things first, then the  
leaders in temporal things should be endowed with this  
same spirit, Union together in all things, this would help  
in a great measure to harmonize the feelings of the  
members throughout the whole body, if the head is not  
right, the body must suffer, what a vast amount of trouble  
and bad feelings would be avoided, if this One plant,

this beautiful Union Plant was more patiently cultivated and how much it would beautify the lovely vineyard. God's people are called to work in; It would be our Heavenly Parents delight, to look upon their children, and bless them, could they see them all building firmly upon the foundation, they have through sufferings established.

Throughout all the many years we have labored in the Eldership together, I never felt the least distrustful feeling, knowing that your spirit breathed with mine, no matter how far we were separated, I felt a safety and assurance that every gift, or word, however small, would be carried out in the very spirit of it; You were always true to me and it was that source of comfort to me that my heart only knows.

I feel very grateful and thankful to all in the Order of Ministry, for your kindness to me in various ways. And more than this, for your integrity and uprightness in all cases and places. I bless every one with my whole soul, and surely I will strengthen and support you, I will hold up your hands, and in times of adversity, and heavy tribulation, I will be a Minister of comfort to your spirits.

Now my loved One, do not think when you read this my word, (for this time) that I have seen nothing to comfort my spirit; I have in many places been able to realize the effects of our labours, and have been well pleased to feel from many faithful souls, a striving for an increase in those things which beautify and adorn the spirit, as well as the outward appearance of Mothers Children. So do accept my sweetest love and in never ending heart felt affection, I must say adieu, but I shall come often and in many unlooked for ways, for my interest is with you still. I enjoy seasons of rest and heavenly comfort which are healing and satisfying to my spirit.

I bless every movement that has been made, since I was so suddenly and unexpectedly snatched away from you, altho I was aware that my work was nearly accomplished that I should be able to perform in the body; I feel perfectly satisfied and will continue to intercede and pray for your prosperity. My love again, but I cannot close until I express my feelings in an especial manner, to my Dearly Beloved and faithful One, Eliza Polly.

How often I have felt my soul drawn out in thankfulness to you, for your willingness to sacrifice your own personal.

feelings, and in humility and meekness take the cross, as it has been appointed unto you, but you have been faithful and true and this has endeared you to me; I bless you in your present calling, and I know that good Angels will bear aloft your earnest anxious prayers for the welfare and prosperity of Zion's Children; these labours and deep sufferings of soul may toll on the mortal part, but the spirit is made glad, you even joyful at the thought of having given up all, soul body and spirit, for the work of God, and the upbuilding of his Church on Earth. I have loved you from childhood, and my love has increased daily, as I have seen your spirit being clothed with a beautiful garment which is only obtained by true subjection to the Order of God, and subduing of self in every form. How I wish I could inspire all the young to follow such bright and shining examples, to forsake all worldlings and frivolous vanities and evenly pursue the selfdenying path of purity and peace.

Farewell for this time, my never dying love I have with you, now, and at all times.

From your loving friend in the Spirit Land.  
Betsey Bates.

Feelings of Resignation Tendered, March 15<sup>th</sup> 1869.

Dearlly Beloved Elders Ann and Elders Polly.

I want to make this request.

Dearest Parents, let me be joined heart and hand with you.  
I am resigned, and thankfully, in your footsteps I will go.  
Let me share your sorrows, Ah! And a healing balm impart,  
Every gift, both great and small, I will treasure in my heart.

Be so kind as to accept my kind love and blessing.

With my Promise.

My soul O my Mother shall be one with thee.

Where ever thou goest, I'll go.

I'll walk with thy Chosen where ever it may be.

To lighten their burdens below.

From Marilla Fairbank.

2<sup>nd</sup> Family Holy Mount.

Copy of a Letter from Eldress Lydia

Mount Morris March 9th 1869

Our Own Dear Eldress Ann and our Good Ministry all,

We are almost stunned beyond expression, to learn the death of our Beloved Eldress Betsey!! But as we recover from the shock, our hearts are drawn out in deep sympathy for our remaining Ministry, and that the God of all power, may minister comfort and consolation to your sorrowing and care worn souls, is the humble prayer of your devoted children in your Groveland home.

For be assured, every heart is touched and moves with sympathy for you, in your, and our bereavement.

And to my ever remembered Eldress Ann let me say, I feel that by experience I am able to sympathize deeply with you in your afflictions. For I too, was bereft of a tender Mother's care and felt that I could not endure the stroke.

And altho it is twenty one years since I drank that bitter cup which caused my mortal frame to reel and totter under the heave that fell upon me, and I had but just got away from the feeling that it was only a few weeks since I had that trial to encounter, when lo! there is another bitter draught presented me, which revives it all afresh, (with an



additional sorrow, and a realization that the loss of our long proved Parent effects believe's more general,) and I must swallow as best I can but I will not murmur.

For the first, I have thus far endured - and must trust in God and His Order to bear us through this sore affliction. So dear soul let us lift up our heads. Put off our mourning attire, and rejoice, believing our Mother's have gone to lead the way for us, and that we shall yet meet them in a fair clime. I have all confidence that the mantle of our departed Mother will rest upon her successor. So Mourn not dear One, or Ones, for Eldress Betsey is not dead. And we know where ever she goes, She will help forward Gods holy cause.

Let me repeat it Dear Eldress Ann, Mourn not, to the rocking of your Mortal frame; for Gods work must go on in the earth, as well as in Eternity, and many souls there are in this life depending upon you to move us forward in this glorious cause.

Pardon me then dear Soul, if I appear forward, for I write from experience.

Our dear Eldress Betsey is no longer with us in body. Her wise verbal counsel for times to come, you

cannot get. Many things, Condition of different societies of believers, and of different members will at times loom up before you, which will seemingly bedim your sight. Check your utterance, and benumb your sensibility. But heed it not, cast it from you those reasons of oppression, and bid defiance to inability, knowing the Angels of God in Heaven will minister to you for the growth and advancement of Mother's Daughters upon earth.

Would to God I had followed my inclination when we received your last note to us (Written by good Elders Polly) perchance I might have seen, our loved Elders Peter, once more in this life. Alas! this joy is not for me. But even now Elders Ann, did I not fear it would be an intrusion; bring a burden upon you and others, and knowing there are many, very many good souls who are much more able to soothe and comfort you, I would haste, and be at your side at once, and if possible, turn all your sorrow, into joy and rejoicing.

However let me say to you your physical strength must <sup>be well</sup> be <sup>well</sup> exhausted, take all the rest you can. And soon as ever the official duties of our Beloved Ministry will permit, do all come to your Grave land home (Not to burden you,) but that we may more effectually comfort you, than we can by writing.

Dear & Beloved with these broken lines do accept the ever-  
lasting love and sympathy of all the people in this place.

May our love and thanks flow out to those who cared  
for Eldress Betsey in her last days, to the good Elders and  
finally to all our gospel friends Farewell in love

From the Elders and people of  
Greeland.

To the  
Ministry Mt Lebanon

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Extract from a letter written by the Harvard Ministry  
to Eldress Antoinette Concerning the death of  
Eldress Betsey. March 11<sup>th</sup> 1869.

The sudden removal of our much loved Mother; Eldress Betsey, came upon us very suddenly, and for the time being gave us a heavy shock, as she was not only most dearly beloved by our selves, but by all in our bishopric, and one in whom every good Believer placed unbounded confidence.

And we assure you dear friend, when the news of her demise was announced there was much weeping and lamentation. But as it seems her removal from earth spheres was by the will of our Heavenly Parents we must labor to be resigned to their will and bow in humble submission to that power that doeth all things for the best good and advancement of Lions children. We cast our selves upon the mercy & goodness of those appointed to succeed in the Ministry.

We do not doubt nor have we the least distrust in the present appointment in that Order. We feel that it is the appointment of God through our Heavenly Parents that they have and will continue to clothe and pour out

the true spirit of Anointing on each one who may be called to fill that Parental Order as long as time shall last. This is our faith and this we will maintain.

Truly our bereavement is great and we do heartily sympathize with the beloved Ministry Elders Brethren and Sisters at Mt Lebanon for to them, this stroke of affliction must feel the most severe. But still to every true believer in the Israel of God, it must feel like a heavy dispensation bringing grief and sorrow on all who ever beheld her heavenly countenance.

But we do not murmur without hope, for the comforter has already been present among us.

The Angel Spirit of our lovely Mother Eldress Betsey has been felt in our Meetings a number of times since she left her Mortal form filling some with love & joy overflowing. She seemed to desire us not to mourn her departure, signifying she could help us much more in her present state, than she could have done, had she continued in the body; and we doubt not that this will be the case with all who have made it their care to obey her teaching, & follow her worthy example; for truly she was Levins friend.

We have had much good teaching from her, and the rest of the Beloved Ministry, which if obeyed will bring us into a oneness with Christ & Mother, and all the faithful who have gone before us.

Nancy & Eliza.

Enfield N. H. March 12<sup>th</sup> 1869.

Dearlly Beloved and afflicted Eldress Ann.

We can but drop a word of sympathy and condolence for your and our bereavement in the removal from earth life, of our dear and most worthy Eldress Patsy. Since first hearing of her serious illness, our prayers and fervent desires have been that she might be restored to health, and be able yet longer to bless all Yim as heretofore, with her wise counsels and understanding judgment. But in this we must yield and become resigned to a higher and superior power, and imitate her Golly examples by obedience to instructions and a reliance on Gods Order, in the Appointment of Eldress Ann as her successor and the filling the place thus vacated by beloved Eldress Patsy Reed. We welcome you both, welcome, welcome.

to the station allotted you, which we have no doubt you will fill with ability and success. Had we been consulted on the subject, could not have made a better or more satisfactory choice for ourselves.

Dearest friends may health be restored, and peace blessing and prosperity attend all your arduous toils and labours in Zion's great cause now and forevermore is our ardent wish, and the same to your coworkers, our beloved Elder Daniel and Elder Giles.

We tender our kind thanks for the very beautiful letter from the pen of Elder Giles, so full of expressive thought and clear information of Dear Mother Betsey's demise, and funeral services, and of the various changes and appointments to places of care and trust, as also of the divers other items of interest, and intelligence.

May the blessing of God be with and support those who are passing through changes, and all affected thereby, the sick be restored to health and the whole household of faith at the center of our union and blessing be administered too by comforting Angels, is breathed from the souls of your dependant children.

Your beautiful letter was received yesterday

P. M. And in the evening was read to the C. H. H. Elders at our shop. Will you please receive the sympathetic and ensuring love of the Ministry, of the Elders, and of all the faithful Brethren and Sisters in Enfield

We are copying your communication for Canterbury, shall mail it to day that it may reach its destination on Saturday and be read to the society there on the Sabbath. The society here will assemble at the Church for a hearing of the same on the same day.

Health of this society good for the season, some slight colds. At Canterbury the Ministers are still obtaining and extending with other aids of colds &c.

Yours in sympathy and tribulation

Ministry

per H. H.

To Elders Ann.



Enfield, N. H., March, 12<sup>th</sup> 1847.

Dearlly Beloved and Afflicted Ministry.

Yours of the 3<sup>rd</sup>, Inst.

announcing the death of our beloved Mother and kind  
 Eldress, Betsey Bates on the 3<sup>rd</sup> was received by yester-  
 day's mail. In this bereavement and dispensation, we  
 lack words to convey our feelings. On the recasting of your  
 letter, a silence stole over us striving to make us feel  
 dumb. Our sympathies and prayers are spontaneous;  
 they are without effort both for our afflicted Ministry  
 and our suffering Zion. Truly, is this day removed from  
 our visible presence, a Princeps, a Mother in Israel.

The greatest reconciliation to this event we can feel is,  
 that Eldress Betsey knows the hearts and the conditions  
 of the sons and daughters of Zion generally; that being  
 gathered unto our Fathers and Mothers in the spirit  
 land, she will be a strong representation and able  
 minister from the Zion below, a powerful agent and  
 intercessor, for the support, maintenance and ad-  
 vancement of our needy Zion. We smile and we  
 weep as we write, confident that she has prayers for  
 us, will plead in our defense and use her powers for

our increase. We had hoped to have seen her again, but as Providence has otherwise ordered, we meekly bow, well knowing His to be wisdom in the many trials of life.

In a large measure we realized the ponderous weight resting upon the Ministry and people at Mt. Lebanon, and in a good degree comprehend the sacrifices called for to fill vacancies made, and being made, to regulate and bring into order, to establish and arrange in place, when changes occur and new officers created to preserve a gift and hold the blessing. When we reflect upon the overturns and sacrifices which have been made in the two Orders of the Church at Mt. Lebanon within the last decade of years, unselfishly made too for the general good of Zion, we feel like covering our faces in shame at the bare mention of some of our crosses, which in our weakness we have been so unable to bear, and in our folly so long brooded over.

We have no apology, only that we have been aggrieved and in our afflictions have sought a place to open our trials and pour out our sorrows. We feel a necessity of increasing our patience and humility, submitting our cares, our prayers, our whole souls to God in His Order, faithfully exerting ourselves to maintain the law and the order of our gospel institution by a living principle. Then all will prove

harmoniously, we shall be exalted, honored, redeemed, and the work of God will prosper in and through His Agents and ministers. As the successor of our beloved Eldress Betsey, we accept and bless the appointment of our much loved and worthy sister Eldress Eliza Ann Taylor having in her unshaken confidence, as to ability, natural & spiritual, to teach and to guide in the ministerial order, & also in her fidelity and established attributes of justice, mercy and love as governing principles of her heart.

We also accept our beloved & worthy sister Eldress Polly Reed, as an associate Eldress in the order of Ministry, having confidence in her as an exemplary sister and a woman of God. We are satisfied with the selection, and believe she will be a strength and blessing both to the Ministerial Order, and to Zion at large.

To this Order again made whole we bow, acknowledging the Anointing as coming from above, desiring your counsels and your support in the great work of God before us, praying Him to sustain you, keep and bless you, both for your own comfort and Zion's sake; not forgetting, that to our departed and lamented Eldress Betsey, we are greatly indebted, and owe many thanks,

at the same time returning our grateful thanks to those left, who stood with her in the order, for the many, many blessings and comforts of the gospel in which we have largely shared, through your clemency.

A copy of your letter we forward to day, to Canterbury. We also expect to give the Society here a hearing of the same Sabbath next 14<sup>th</sup> Inst.

Beloved Ministry One and All, please accept herewith our united love, desiring your interest in and prayers for us.

Ministry      Enfield N.H.  
A.P.

Extract from a letter written by Sr<sup>o</sup> Mary  
Whitcher, to Sr<sup>o</sup> Anna White, giving account of  
their feelings concerning Eldress Betsey's decease  
March 15<sup>th</sup> 1869

But Ah! something has transpired at the Mourn<sup>t</sup> the  
word of which, seems to hush all our triumph songs.

And tho' we do not mourn, we weep from a fullness  
in the knowledge of the great power of salvation which  
has been manifested in our perfected Parent Eldress  
Betsey. Must all this virtue be taken from the earth?  
And again from Mt<sup>n</sup> Lions habitation? In this  
embodiment we may not see and feel it. But can we  
have one jot or tittle lost! Or are we able to be poorer,  
less virtuous, or less strong? Heaven knows we are not,  
and we know the same, and here we feel responsibilities  
called forth. The good seed has been sown in many  
a heart. No adult, no child, even in Believers ranks  
who have ever seen Eldress Betsey, can seemingly fail  
of receiving some good; and of any miss of receiving  
much good, of all good, of perfect truth, and the knowl-  
-edge of perfect purity and uprightness, the lack is in  
the ability of the individual, not in the faultless giver.

O may I be more-virtuous, that the portion mine, may  
not fall to the ground.

Sweet Eldress Betsey! She has gone from our  
sight. Our bereavement is great, tho' we see her beautiful  
likeness in many lovely daughters at the Mount.

Shine upon us, dear ones, that we poor children may  
be able to reflect some <sup>little</sup> likeness of the heavenly image of our  
gospel Mother.

We sympathize with you all, but the most with  
those nearest, while we say

O Eldress Ann, dear Eldress Ann  
We would not have you sigh,  
So kindly, and so beautifully  
You've laid our Mother by.

To change from yours to Angel hands, Can she be left to feel!  
No sweeter love or tender care, Can greater love reveal.

And as in sickness, so in health, Have we observed the same,  
A help unlike the help that's yours, Deserves another name,  
We've seen the first arrayed with strength, The power & gift of God  
And we have seen, who's staid the hand, By ev'ry act & word.

Two perfect halves, one perfect whole, One spirit and one mind,  
 Two bodies even, but one soul, With naught of earth to bind,  
 Naught to divide above the earth, We've seen our Parents live  
 The "seed of Abraham," yet arose, As Christ and Mother have.

What lessons now before us lie, What conquests not obtained,  
 And justice holds us where we are, Till higher life is gained,  
 Our Parents beckon us "Come up," Above the surge of earth,  
 To live in holyness and truth, The new and second birth.

Mount Zion full is called to rise, Ye, all who name the name,  
 Of those who are, "Her Righteous ones," Her purity must gain  
 The promise, and our strife shall be, To live anew to God,  
 By living as our Parents live, Obedient, Kind and good.

Mary W.

Extract from a letter written by Elder Giles at  
Waterliet March 16<sup>th</sup> 1869.

Beloved Eldress Ann & Eldress Polly

We have received two kind letters giving us some information relative to your situation personally & conditions generally at the Mount.

We rejoice that you are being cared for and nursed according to your needs.

The Elders Brethren & Sisters manifest unbounded love to you, and hearty approbation of your official appointment and promise to support you to the utmost.

Sympathy for our precious Sisters runs very high indeed and much anxiety is manifest for your welfare and return to health. — Unbounded are the stores of love extended to you from each and all the families, in which we have a full part.

Giles



His Communication from Eldress Betsey  
to Eldress Ann, Church Mt Lebanon

March 23<sup>rd</sup> 1869

After retiring to rest last evening, I realized the spirit of our worthy Mother Eldress Betsey, standing at my bedside saying "Will you write a little more for me?" I replied, Yes, if I can do they will. She then said, "Although I can yet, both hear and speak with my dear friend Eldress Ann, still there is one thing I want to have with her in writing, that she may have it to read to others, and rely upon when I shall be further gone than I now am."

My ever true Friend & Companion Eldress Ann; Ye who have shared ~~times~~ in my joys, and walked with me in sorrow! Ye, thro' many scenes, known (as I then thought,) only by ourselves; but now, know otherwise! I find we have many times been guided by our Blessed Mother & Wise Spirits, when we scarcely knew whether we were doing the right thing or not.

In looking over my past decisions with my good Mother Lucy, I told her of the many severe trials and cruel censures we had passed thro', concerning

the admission of Physicians from the outside world, among those chosen to keep themselves pure; Body, Soul, and Spirit. She said to me "But say there is a spirit in the unclean mind, that seeks the destruction of Purity & Innocence, as a hungry dog seeks the blood of a Lamb!"

Then said, "Mother may I cause this to be written and given to my anxious friend, now praying for wisdom and strength to bear her heavy burden right, and acceptable before God?" She said, "Yea, I tell her not to fear opposing powers, but follow the dictates of inward Purity and consider that the body is less consequence than the Soul! Also know that when disease preys upon the body, the Mind being so nearly connected, becomes impaired with weakness, & should then, (especially with the young,) be protected by pure influence and not exposed to temptation.

When Males are sick, let them be attended as much as possible by their own sex, & when females, let the Female Physicians put their trust in God, and feel confidence in performing their duties, according to their inward directions, & lean not too much upon an arm of flesh, especially the unclean, who would gladly

consume our chastity upon their wicked lusts! Many innocent Ones have been destroyed through this medium, a host of evil spirits introduced into different parts of Zion, which has been more destructive to souls, than disease to the body. In my day, when called to direct in these things, we had faithful men of God, who knew the current of wickedness in which this class lived and moved, before they confessed their sins, thus knew where to make the separation between duty, and indulging our carnal sense, when called to assist the sick, And those whom they taught in this line, were instructed accordingly.

The most offensive sins in the sight of God are clasped among diseases, and cloaked by those professing medical skill! O! that those privileged to live clean lives, could see the awful condition of souls who enter Eternity having in time, yielded themselves servants to the wickedness now practiced thro' the medium of medical treatment! Very different from the days when souls feared the realities of a righteous judgement.

End of Mother Lucy's word.

Now my dear Elders Ann, you know your Mothers will, And long, long have you known the

tribulation we together have passed through on this account.  
 Say to your female Physicians, "Take your sisters when  
 sick or diseased, under your Parental cares, and keep  
 them as much as possible under your protecting influence,  
 and tho you may feel incapable, and unwilling to meet  
 reflections, remember your Mother's word, and bear it  
 patiently, thus shall the work of your hands prosper,  
 and the Harbinger of peace and piety guard your  
 habitation. I have set you the example, altho some  
 might think that more skillful Physicians might  
 have saved me. Not so, I was treated wisely, and  
 skillfully receiving all from my attendants that Mortal  
 Powers could do, to counteract disease, or relieve suffer-  
 ings, and for the same they will be rewarded.

Farewell my friends, I have caused this to be  
 written for a strength in trying hours, when you cannot  
 hear and feel me as you now do, and when you read  
 it to your little Ones. (Female Physicians) all may  
 receive my love who will be obedient to this word.

B.B.

Extracts, Copied from a letter to Elders Unbinette  
 written by Sister Mary Whiteher. Specifying  
 their general gratitude for their reception of  
 the Copy of the proceedings of Elders Betsey's  
Funeral written by her hand. March 23<sup>rd</sup> 1869.

Dear Elders Unbinette,

We are hardly able to say why  
 our notice to little Anna should stick to us so long  
 unless to give us an opportunity to say to you, our  
 hearts are overflowing with gratitude for the  
 sacred boon you have so kindly & recently given us.

Elders Dorothy says, "How could you do it,"  
 with your own careful hand hand copy that precious  
 memento? — A likeness which reached all our  
 senses. We could see, feel & hear the whole.

We do not believe anything on this earth ever compared  
 with it. — A body of Christ have never stood  
 where they now stand. The Church of Christ, were  
 never able before, as we see it, to give up a Parent, who  
 so well knew, all, from the least to the greatest.

Hence, a greater sacrifice of life and blood.

The smallest fibre seems left bleeding, but we hope not disappointed

We did love Eldress Betsey, as you have named, but unless we love her testimony and her life sufficiently for obedience and imitation, we have not the pure love.

We thank you most kindly beloved, and all who assisted you in gathering for us, so interesting and so valuable a treasure. It was read to the Society, Sabbath forenoon. The Elders intend sending a copy to Harvard, to E. H. Webster & one to Alfred Minnie.

Eldress Betsey was manifested in our Meeting Saturday evening, also at the Society meeting on the Sabbath. Confession of sin, and purity of life was her testimony.

Eldress Dorothy her Instrument.  
M. Witcher.

## Letter from Eldress Dorothy and Sister Mary White

Shaker Village, N.H. March 24

Dear &amp; Beloved Eldress Polly,

1869

The Eldress Dorothy has said to me this morn, I want you to write to Eldress Polly for me, yea for us both, telling her, also Eldress Ann, how thankful we are for the appointments, and how, with our whole souls we accept and will sustain, the gift and order of God, as it now stands. The question arises, do we dwell so near, that they can feel and bear us? And tho' Beloved, we are but two drops, these shall go into the Bucket, and not upon the outside. Our "little all," we will give into the Treasury. There we deposit our principle, the whole and full riches of our hearts, never to be withdrawn.

The interest of this doubles the whole, many times, and sustains us where our individual portion, would have failed us long, long ago.

In as much as we sympathize and love our dear Leaders, the Beloved Ministry at the Mount, we feel called to act with them, for them, and be unto their spirit, and their word. We will not put into

the distance, what ought to be done today, present help,  
present support, full appreciation of God with us, & not  
have our Saviours in the past or in the future.

Not have our gospel kindred a relation talked of,  
and never possessed. May, dear Parents we will be  
children good obedient & persevering. Stand to our brothers  
and Sisters, younger and older, and all sustaining to  
the gift that leads us, Our past faults shall not be our  
future sins. Simplicity and Obedience have marked  
the ways of our brightest examples, perfected the robes,  
and starred the crowns of our holy Ancestary.

Dear Elders Ann, in you we have ever seen  
an unrivalled example of perfect support to the gift  
and order of God. And had it not been for your care  
in preserving even the vessel, we feel the strength of the  
anointing, might have been much less to us.

Can we sustain and help you, as you have supported  
our Mother Elders Patsy? We believe nothing doubt-  
ing, you will have the same support. We lack no evidence  
of the travel and ability of Elders Polly, to complete the  
square, or help lead on the Camps of Israel.

The spirit whispered to us, before we had heard of



Eldress Betsey's decease, that Eldress Polly would be chosen to assist Eldress Ann, if our Mother was taken away. A pure mind and humble spirit of her own moulding and forming. The natural likenesses of children to Parents is so strikingly near & great, as the spiritual likenesses in all the gospel graces, with tenderness and love, which we see and feel in the daughters of the Mount, and which we have so sensibly felt in Beloved Eldress Polly. No bone of bone, or spirit of spirit, could ever seemingly, been more closely knit than the union of the Spirit manifested between Eldress Betsey, & Eldress Ann. And are we not bidden to follow & gain the same? As like begets like we are well aware, that no spiritual offspring can be produced, without the perfect union of the Spirit in the Parents of their being, and when we consider how simple the point, which is obedience, to render us like unto our Parents and Leaders, we wonder at our backward standing, and at our unlike resemblance of those we love so well.

Eldress Lovell frequently mentions that no passage in Sacred writ, occurs to her so often, or is fraught

with so much weight of meaning as, "Obedience is better than sacrifice." And now Beloved Parents, we will take this little smooth stone from the waters of our conviction and therewith slay the Stewart enemies which lurk about our camps, Rebellion and Disobedience, these Captains of the enemies host, and by example teach our children how to use the simple sling.

I fear I am tiring our precious Parents, which I would not willingly do. You have given us so much dear Ministry, to help us and bring us near to the fount and Mount, we want you to know that we do feel grateful.

For the late notice and help granted us thro' the visit of Elder Frederick K. Co we would return our kindest thanks. Their testimony brought on an awakening, which was much needed. We now of no words to convey the gratitude of our hearts to the dear Ministry, for all you do and feel for us, with your own hearts and hands. And we are often brought to say how can you do so much? We mean to grow better and do better that you may be comforted & satisfied with the yield, sown by your unsparing hands. — The Church are growing more united, consequently, we are having more spiritual

strength, better meetings & more perfectly generally.  
 But still we see & feel our great lack.

Eldress Betsey's gift to us some two years since is still rolling. Eldress Dorothy has continued from that time to labor in it, and for it, with the Sisters, & the same testimony in our Public Meetings has not been withheld. Since Eldress Betsey's decease she has drawn even nearer to us, and the call to "Confession of sin, in the Order of God," is louder and deeper than ever, "A pure union and a pure relation", is called for, as the old leaven is cast out. (Eldress Dorothy Inst')

The necessary, of late, has seemed striving, as tho' his time was short, while the good spirit is evidently gaining the ascendancy.

Dear Ministry to say we love you & want to see you is more than words. Your beautiful letter apprising us of Eldress Betsey's departure was received on the 13<sup>th</sup> Inst Saturday, and was read to the Church that evening and the following day Sabbath to the Society.

Saturday night I dreamed of Eldress Betsey, that she was here at the Ministry's Shop, & I was giving her some drops of the Oil of Rose, from a choice little vial that I

have, would that I could give you my Mother, some refreshing fragrance, for all the lovely love you have so kindly bestowed upon me. I do not mourn for Elders Peter, tho' it is hard to think of her without tears, I have assurance she loved me worthy or otherwise. She was too good not to love all her children, and I have been a favored one to receive much of her love and notice.

Sab<sup>o</sup> March 28<sup>th</sup> Dear Ministry pardon the liberty I have taken in writing thus lengthy. We have no object in view but the expression of our love and gratitude.

Elders Dorothy so far trusts me to say to you any thing that can be said of the least interest that my loquacious pen may seemingly know no bounds.

But you have known me before to day, and I shall take no burden.

Our good Ministry are expected home tomorrow. The sleighing is being broken up. Our brethren are in the sapping business nothing favorable as yet.

Health of the people usual excepting continued cases of the Mumps.

Please accept the most affectionate love of the good Elders. Also the same from brethren & Sisters. While we hope ever to be  
Yours Elders Dorothy & Mary Thatcher.

Copy of a letter received from the Ministry in Maine  
 In answer to one sent to them announcing the Death  
 of Eldress Betsey Bates

West Gloucester March 29<sup>th</sup> 1869

Ever Blest Gospel Parents

Yours of the 9<sup>th</sup> Inst conveying the  
 sad news of the sudden death of our dear "Sainted Mother"  
 Eldress Betsey Bates was received on Saturday the 13<sup>th</sup>  
 Inst which solemn intelligence spread a cloud of sorrow  
 over every heart. She was truly a Mother in Israel, and  
 if any people have reason to love, respect and revere her  
 memory, we are that people, who have shared so largely  
 in her maternal care.

We poor lowly lowly souls in the state of Maine,  
 were viewed with an eye of pity, and she in her Motherly  
 Samaritan love, with her companions our gospel Parents  
 the Ministry pitying our low and forlorn condition  
 came to our relief, and tattered as were our garments  
 uninviting and uncleanly as we were, they received us in  
 their arms of love, and adopted us as their children  
 and our Dearly Loved Eldress Betsey, promised to be to us

a Mother, and a good Mother she has always proved to be, by every act of kindness, and by attention to every duty, to try and raise us up to a more elevated position, teaching every gospel precept which would serve to purify the soul, and change our soiled and sombre aspect, by gaining robes of righteousness which would recommend us to favor in the house of God.

Sabbath 14<sup>th</sup> the Families convened in the Church's meeting room (Alfred, where we were at the time) at 10 o'clock A.M. where your letter and most appreciated eulogy was read, and an universal voice of sorrow was heard, while flowing tears told eloquently how sensitively the tender feelings of the heart were touched at the loss of one so truly loved by every child of Grace. Many tender expressions of deep regret were uttered, and all united in praise of her complete accomplishment in every gospel grace and virtue, and in conclusion resolved that the true way to honor and praise her name, and the manner which would be most pleasing to her pure spirit in heaven is to imitate her virtues, pattern her Golly life, bear the cross of Christ and Mother to the end as she has born it, and by true

Obedience to every gift of God, do as she has done, as was so beautifully illustrated of her life, inlay our Lives with gold, both internally and externally as our Dear Elders and Mother had so perfectly accomplished, that we too might become fit receptacles in which the Holy Spirit might dwell. And thus in reading, appropriate speaking and singing our meeting continued one hour.

We wrote to the Elders in the Church at this place on the 15<sup>th</sup> inclosing your letter informing them of our meeting and feeble tribute, advising them to call a similar meeting, which they did on Tuesday evening 16<sup>th</sup> and resulted very much as the one described.

But great as is our bereavement, deep as is our common sorrow, we have the perfect satisfaction of knowing that no infirmity of age diminished the lustre of her brilliant Leadership, or checked the perfect success of her ministrations, nor had her attained three score and ten years weakened her superior judgment, but in the full enjoyment of all the intellectual talents with which God had especially endowed her, in the full strength of her wonderfully progressive mind, while wisdom crowned all the

leading acts of her eventful life, she passed the bright portals thro' the gates of pearl, into the Celestial City.

And from the unfolding of her wings of love, embracing especially every individual soul within the limits of Gods consecrated domain, from the bleak heights on Poland Hill in Maine, to the sunny plains of South Union in Kentucky, spreading her mantle of charity over the infirmities & frailties of poor erring mortals, comforting the weak and encouraging the strong, Pleasing without stint the <sup>faithful and</sup> pure in heart, until all with one voice intuitively arise and address her with the highest title which the children of the New Creation can express in honor, welling up from the very center of their souls, and in the tenderest emotions of the heart breathe in accents gently the sweet name of Mother. Honor and praise be to thee forever Thou Sanctified One. "Many Daughters have done virtuously but thou excellest them all."

As it has been the pride and pleasure of our Ancient Saints, to speak of their privilege of seeing and hearing our blessed Mother Ann while in time, whose praise was ever upon their lips, so will it be of us in this day: All ages even the least children will to the latest breath remember



and respect with gladness, that they too had seen our good Mother Eldress Betsey, the personification of our first Spiritual Mother. And repeat the beautiful words of wisdom and meekness, which fell like dew drops from her precious lips and melted as they touched many hearts. You and chaunt some of the beautiful songs of Zion which thrilled and inspired their whole being, as she opened her lips and with her musical voice poured forth a rich volume of melody, in which her very soul was made vocal by perfect devotion.

How often have we sympathized with our Beloved Ministry, who were thus so unexpectedly deprived of one of their number, and the circumstance of your absence at the time of her demise, rendered it peculiarly grievous. Fast left alone of her companions for a moment, and the stern messenger of death must enter just then and leave his execratory summons. Dear Eldress Ann! how must she have grieved over so many years of attachment and unwearied attention, to be deprived of the opportunity of administering to her precious Mother's necessities, at the last moment, knowing it must have been such a comfort to her, to have been surrounded by her beloved companions, the Ministry with whom she had been

so many years agreeably associated, which would have so smoothed the transit of her Spirit in the last flickerings of life: such things happen mysteriously, and we can no more account for this arrangement of Providence than we can in the choice of calling our Blessed Elder Rufus Bishop to his spirit home from White Water, Ohio, instead of his beloved home in Mount Lebanon.

But we are still blessed with precious Leaders, who will continue to lead us on from one degree of glory to another. The Mantles of Wisdom have, and always will rest upon those who are called to succeed those removed by death or otherwise. And we believe our good Elsie Betsey was so fully endowed with the Spirit of Christ, that she too would say as did the Saviour to his Disciples; "He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also, and greater works than these shall he do." And we believe she will continue to be a powerful Minister to us on earth, and every true honest soul will be strengthened and comforted by her spirit. For already we have felt the influence of her blessed spirit in our midst with her living testimony against all sin: inviting and encouraging us on in the beautiful way of God. And she

will certainly be near to assist and strengthen the hands, and she will bless us as do we with our whole souls, those upon whom the sacred Ropes are placed to be the Mothers and Leaders in Zion. Our very Dear, Beloved Elders Ann and Elders Tally.

The foregoing is a copy of that portion of the letter which referred to Elders Deton's decease. The remaining portion omitted  
 from the Ministry at Gloucester.

To the Ministry at Mount Lebanon.

Copy of a letter from Eldrefs Hester A. Adams

West Gloucester April 4<sup>th</sup> 1869.

My Enduring Dearly loved sorrowful  
Mother Eldrefs Anne;

To you dear One, my thoughts  
are constantly turning, forgetting my own sorrows to  
love and pity you. How sad a trial is the parting from  
so dear an earthly friend and Sister as good Mother Eldrefs  
Betsey, who seraph like took her flight silently; and  
to add to your grief, when you was far away from the dearly  
loved, the object of your greatest care, without one warning  
word to you before hand not to leave her, for her time of  
departure was near at hand! She passed away as  
she had lived, Angel like; well our Heavenly Father  
knows what is best for us, & calls his own to him in  
his own good time. You were unselfish in your love  
for our Mother & desired her presence for all Lion, and  
not for yourself alone. Oh! who could have borne the  
sorrowful tidings, with more courage and fortitude  
than you, who has never felt to endure the thought so  
trying for a moment, that you and Eldrefs Betsey must

be separated here in time. You surely have felt that it was impossible for your affectionate heart to endure the sad change, but such is life; we bear up under trials when we meet them often times to our astonishment, but when looking at them ahead, they seem insurmountable and we shudder painfully.

This bereavement I have many times and often this winter, meditated upon, but could never feel ready to have my mortal vision clouded, by death's cold hand from her lovely form, her sweet gentle voice, or wise good heart, uttering forth such truths of love. You were One in all things, One heart, One mind soul to soul uniting the whole Sisterhood of Zion.

I am not reconciled now; my soul mourns, & I am afraid it will take some little time to gain this point! If all my natural relation when I was young, had died in one day, it would have been but an atom of sorrow, in my soul, compared with what I now feel. To tell about a natural Mother's love or to compare it with the love I feel for Eldress Betsey is as far out of the way, as to compare dirt, with gold.  
 Why my spiritual Fathers & Mothers, are more to me

than all the World beside; my life, my love, is wrapt up in you, and I shall ever hold you all dear to my heart; and every change as it has been, shall add more & more to this bond of Heavenly union that shall never die. Death cannot separate it - affliction nor adversity, cannot wear it out, it is my light, my guide in darkest hours, and the pivot upon which the wheels of gospel progress moves in my soul.

May our good Father <sup>our</sup> Daniel, still be allowed to dwell with us on the earth to bless Zion, for there is great need. May the separation be put afar off, or untill we are better prepared, and our sensitive nerves have gained strength, is the humble prayer of the two in the East.

Our kind and earnest Elder Giles, we pray may live many long years, to help Zion in her days of increase & anxiety, for we love our Parents dearly; But dear Mother Eldre's Ann, we will hope long and fondly that Eldre's Betsey will often make herself known by some spirit communication to you dear self, so you will not hurry away from us, to be with her, but I feel she is here with you now. And Dear Eldre's Polly, my youngest Mother, I am ready to say live, for Heaven blesses you, and Zion's Children bless you, who are worthy to bless.

You are able to help the needy, and a heart full of goodness, purity, and love is yours always.

I will be your least "bawling" (and glad of a chance.) Elder Otis has been full of sorrow & sympathy for our Parents and if any soul has offered fervent heart-felt prayers for you all, it has been his pleasure.

Many thanks for the kindness in having Sister Miranda write to us, for the precious good love sent to us by our Parents, was indeed a solace & comfort; and to be remembered too when under so much burden showed we were not forgotten. Dear Eldress (Betsey) did surely dictate a part of the letter, sent love & blessing to us, and she had visited us and would again.

Would meet us at Mt Lebanon and renew her love & blessing, said we should by no means be forgotten by her. She also sent a sheet of silk paper (invisible with a gilt border and letters stamped upon it in gold. She desired to fold it in Sister Miranda's when done, & hold so

We shall read it by & by, for this afternoon she came into our meeting near the close, and spoke through Eldress Mary, gave us love, and blest us in her usual way, which was to have us live in love together, to bless each

and pray for each other, and put away all hard feelings towards one another, for this hindered the travel of the soul, said this was the burden of her soul, for she could not rest in peace, while those for whom she had labored and prayed to help along on their Heavenly journey, were not in a condition to receive the blessing of God, or to find the increase called for in this day. The real heart work of cleansing and purifying the soul, was what was needed, to be unselfish and live lives of purity and consecration.

Eldress Betsey will do a work here I am certain many dream of her, and always something to benefit.

In love and gospel affection I close,  
 Hester A. Adams.



Copy of a Letter from Eldress Mary Ann Gillespie.

West Gloucester April 4<sup>th</sup> 1869.

Dear & Loved Eldress Ann,  
and Eldress Polly.

Our ever esteemed Gospel Mothers;  
Well do we know, that there can be no sorrow like your sorrow, and that of our devoted Father's Elder Daniel, and Elder Giles, in the loss of our Angel Mother, Eldress Betsey. It came upon us so unexpectedly, that we hardly knew how to bear it and even now, while we write, the tear drops will fall, and there have been but few days, since we first heard the sad tidings when we have not wept. For we loved her with a deep and fervent love. not only did we mourn the loss of Dear Eldress Betsey, but our sympathies were for you, who are left. for in loving her, we loved you every one for, we know there is no party spirit among you. But the spirit of union, meekness and love. The spirit of the Heavenly Dove is resting upon you, at all times.

When we think of her, it is to love her, to bless her and to obey her precious instructions, always so wise and so Motherly. She always pointed out to us submission to the

Order of God and childlike obedience. This we have always beheld in the life of Eldress Ann, & certainly no one who has ever seen you walking and talking together, can say, "I have not seen it." for it is written upon your face and in all your movements. This should be a life lesson for us all. I want to see it more and more, to become more childlike and simple, that I may one day be numbered among those beautiful souls who adorn and beautify Zion.

We thank you Dear Parents for those beautiful verses, which were written for that Heavenly Meeting, they were copied at Canterbury and sent to us by your request. They were beautiful indeed and they seemed to bring Mother so near, so much were they like the gentle dew drops which so often fell from her lips, that we loved them for her sake.

Again, our Beloved Eldress Antoinette, wrote a full account of the meeting at Holy Mount, and sent it to the Elders of Chh. Canterbury, who kindly copied it for Elder John. This too we have received, and it has been read in all our families. Elder John sent it to us to read and (as he says) shed tears over it, as did the Brethren and sisters at all. We have copied it into a book.

that it may always be before us, and that we may never forget it, and more than this, may we never forget her, who has been both a Saviour and a Mother to all who were willing to pay the price, to give up all for this blessed gospel of salvation.

How thankful we were to hear by our very dear sister Miranda, that our loving Mother did receive and read our letters to her and to you, we don't if we could only know that she did get them, while she was yet living, how thankful we should feel, and now to have the sweet satisfaction of knowing she did read them, and that they were the last letters she ever read in this world; Dear Mother, we know she will remember and love us still, and we know too, that Eldress Ann and Eldress Polly, will be just so good and just as mindful of our wants and our needs, and will minister to us in that same motherly spirit. We do mean to be good and obedient children of Mother, and with every feeling of our souls we bless our present lead. Our Fathers and our Mothers, and we will be

subject to your counsel in all things. We long to see you, truly we do. Elder Otis said he felt impelled to write a letter to Eldress Polson, at the same time we wrote, and during the week previous to her decease these words were often before him, "Many Daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all", & we wish he too had written & followed his impressions, but his feelings of sympathy & sorrow for your bereavement as well as ours have been deeply affecting, for we all loved our dear Ministry, & if you are called to drink the cup of affliction, we are willing to share it with you.

Oh beloved ones we pray to be remembered in your prayers, & we ask for one little corner in your loving hearts, we know that you have many little ones to feed, but we are confident that you will save something for us your needy & dependent little doves, do love us & care for us & we will try to be Oh so good & obedient that you will never regret that you have taken us under your beautiful wings of protection, for now we feel safe, we know that no harm can come to us while we are so near

to you. Dearest Parents, do accept our love the best  
we have our purest affections we give to you.

I remain as ever your little child

Mary Ann.

To Eldress Ann & Eldress Polly.

A Comforting Word from Eldress Betsey Bates.

To her Faithful Sister Abigail Freeman, April 2<sup>d</sup>, 1809.

Dearlly beloved one, I am very much pleased with what  
you have written for me, it is all right, and you need  
not feel any doubting in your own mind. I will call  
upon you again and again, for by the mouth of one my  
witnesses the truth shall be established. I will not  
make myself known to you thro' unclean vessels, tho'  
imperfect; my work is not finished in this place tho'  
my earthly form has passed away, yea, I shall stay  
for a season to help my beloved, and bear her up, as  
she has done by me, for her measure is filled, her  
physical strength is not equal to the strife at present;  
But her spiritual lamp burns bright & clear, and  
illumes the whole Lion of God.

From her mouth shall go forth the truth like a two edged sword, sinners shall tremble in her presence, and be melted into sweet repentance, in her hand is placed the Keys of Christ's Kingdom upon earth.

And now I ask your blessing & strength, in her behalf, for I find you able and worthy to bless mine uncointed.

By your uprightness, and the virtuous life you have lived, you gather around you a cloud of righteousness and peace, you are an ornament in Gods Holy temple upon Earth.

With all my spirit I bless for you are one after my own heart, you must get well, well, as soon as you can, for you are needed in this vineyard a while longer yet.

In my peace and love,

Fare ye well

From Eldress Betsey Butler

To Sister Abigail Crossman

Words spoken by Eldress Betsy  
To Eldress Ann,  
In our Saturday Evening Meeting, on the  
5<sup>th</sup> of December 1869.  
Witnessed & written by Matilda Reed.

To Eldress Ann,

Thou hast been my true friend; for this I have surely proved. Thou hast been true to God, true to thy own soul, and true to me. In times of affliction, in sorrow & in joy my hand thou hast stayed, and my spirit thou hast borne up. I owe thee a double debt; and this I will pay to the uttermost farthing. So be comforted my beloved for I will be nigh to thee and help thee. I will go with thee wherever thou goest and impress thee. So be not cast down, for this gospel shall not run out. Thou art & shalt be directed aright. So fear thou not, for I am thy True Friend.

Betsy Bates.





to you. Dearest Parents, do accept our love the best  
we have our purest affections we give to you.

I remain as ever your little child

Mary Ann.

To Elders Anne & Elders Polly.

A Comedine Writ from Elders Betsy Bald.

To her Worthful Sister Miguel Wrightman, April 2<sup>d</sup>, 1819.

Dear beloved one, I am very much pleased with what  
you have written for me, it is all right, and you need  
not feel any doubting in your own mind. I will call  
upon you again and again, for by the mouth of one of  
us the truth shall be established. I will not  
make myself known to you thro' unclean vessels, tho'  
imperfect; my work is not finished in this place tho'  
my earthly form has passed away, yet, I shall stay  
for a season to help my beloved, and bear her up, as  
she has done by me, for her measure is filled, her  
physical strength is not equal to the strife at present;  
But her spiritual lamp burns bright & clear, and  
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In my peace and love,

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Betsy Bates.

