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4) Soon be gone - If you live you will go about your play  
 be good to each other - she then gave them both to me  
 She said I must take good care of them, I promised I  
 would while I lived - From the time she was taken sick, she  
 could leave all but the two little girls - If they were older, if  
 could take of themselves, could she have lived to see them  
 grows to womanhood, but it was all right, the Lord would  
 take care of them - she must leave them - she should not get  
 well - thus did she talk, and thus did she feel toward her  
 children - after I made the above promise she shed no more  
 anxiety for the two little girls, although she lived just  
 two weeks longer - she told how christians ought to live, - gods peo-  
 ple were all one, should be no jars - no contention - no disputing, what  
 church is right or what wrong - she believed in the coming of  
 Jesus Christ, in the resurrection in the destruction of this earth,  
 - then prayed we might all meet her in heaven, named each  
 one of <sup>her</sup> children, spoke of you and your two little girls <sup>very</sup> distinct-  
 ly, Barnham and his children - she hoped to have seen a letter from  
 Almon but it was ordered otherwise - told how she wanted to be  
 laid out - wanted such an one to preach her funeral sermon,  
 - she thought likely we would do as we chose - - I had every  
 thing done just as she requested - in giving <sup>us</sup> our charge - her  
 exhortation - holding several conversations with her departed  
 children - describing the beauties of the place she was then  
 beholding - and the earnest desire she had to be there, filled  
 up three hours of the time between 12 and 4 o'clock, her eyes be-  
 ing firmly closed all the while, and she free from pain - her  
 voice and speech were changed - every word seasoned  
 with grace - We cried, we wept - we praised God -  
 we mourned - we rejoiced - we knew it was nothing  
 less than God speaking through that lump of clay  
 she came out of the spell - pain and distress followed  
 she wondered why we did any thing to bring her back  
 why not let me stay, If I go again don't bring back  
 with pain and distress, and without sleep she lived till March 25<sup>th</sup>

Lincolnville March 31 - 1851

My Dear Son,

I must now acquaint you of the  
 Death of your dear Mother, she died Wednesday  
 evening thirty minutes past nine, March twenty sixth.  
 It is said by those that watched with her, (and the number  
 was just twenty and three from 2-3 and even 4 at  
 a time, all ~~very~~ busily employed) that her ease  
 of sickness was the most distressing, and the most  
 and more strange, than any case they ever knew  
 or heard of, she never lied down, not so much  
 as one second of time for the last three weeks  
 and four days of her life,

March 6<sup>th</sup> (which ought to been the date of my  
 other letter) we thought she was dying, but her  
 trouble was not then to end, pain and distress,  
 with bitter groaning, was almost unceasing, (and no  
 sleep - what we call sleep) till Wednesday night  
 of March 12<sup>th</sup> or Morning <sup>of 13<sup>th</sup></sup> when she became calm,  
 closed her eyes, and began to talk of things that  
 were both present and yet in the future, with  
 her, but we saw them not, The watchers and I,  
 expecting she would either go while in that spell  
 or immediately after coming out of it, I went  
 to the chamber and got all of the children down  
 and round their mother's bed - At first her



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conversation was with the daughters we have buried, she said she saw the three little ones all dressed in shining white, Lois standing, having them at her right hand, all standing near the edge of a beautiful large plain, Lois holding out her hand for Mother to come and join them, she conversed with them as face to face, to us around her bed, she said, look, see them four beautiful shining ones, all dressed in white, all dressed alike, how they shine, I will go, I am to stand having the little ones at my left hand - Lois has them at her right hand, their father will soon be <sup>with</sup> is to fill up the ring - that was to perfect the ring. She saw hosts of others, we could not learn how they appeared, she spoke of two old veterans of the cross, we learnt not who they were, she saw hosts of angels, she asked some of those she saw if there was an angel for her (we heard her ask the question) an angel darted forward, there, there he is, there is my angel, O, how she longed to step up on that plain, every few minutes she would speak with Lois, O, the beauty, the blessedness, every thing to delight the eye, every thing to make it a world of peace, of happiness and joy, she was so elevated by the vision that she could view a part of the surface of the plain she wondered that any should want to live in this world of trouble, pain, distress and death, she would not part with or give the world she then stood beholding, for hundreds like this - I informed her that the children were all present around her bed

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She then spoke to each separately, to Nancy she gave the advice she thought most needful - she would not be at home much - when she was - live in peace love and harmony, for she had ~~not~~ but a little while to live - Nancy had helped her much by giving money and other things, for which the Lord would reward her, - To Van Buren ~~take~~ <sup>take</sup> good care of your father, you won't have him with you but a little while, you know not how many days of hard labour he and I have done to take care of you, the care of the younger children will soon be on you, take good care of Huldah and Frances, - you and Darius, live in peace, live together, keep the land between you two, ~~do~~ don't cut it up into little parts, if you live, one can buy the other out, - she gave this advice, feeling confident that I would not live 12 months after her death, To Ruth - Now Ruth, take good care of your father bear with him, you won't have <sup>him</sup> long, that disorder in his head will be the cause of his death, (her opinion was that I would not live a year) take good care of your little sisters, don't be fretful, guard against temper, Remember what I tell you, do with all my things as I have told you, she had made all her arrangements soon after the doctors first visit, he having advised her to do so, - Darius - remember that Van Buren is the oldest, he knows best, live like brothers - have no disputes live in love, don't quarrel such things are not right, remember what I say to the two little girls calling each by name - you must do as your father and Ruth tell you, your mother will