

THE *# 119*
Dying Mothers Legacy.

OR THE
Good and Heavenly
COUNSEL

Of that Eminent and Pious Matron,
Mrs. GRACE SMITH,
Late Widow to Mr. RALPH SMITH
of *Eastham* in *New-England*.

Left as a Perpetual Monitor to her Sur-
viving Children; as it was taken from
her own Mouth a little before her
Death, by the Minister of that Town
where She Died.

Prov. i. 8.

*My Son, Hear the Instruction of thy Father,
and Forsake not the Law of thy Mother.*

B O S T O N,

Printed and Sold by Timothy Green, at the
Lower-End of Middle-Street; 1712.

T H E

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MY Children dear, whom I did bear ;
O lend your Ear to my Instructions ;
I not vain Toys nor worldly Joys
Shall be these my Directions
For ever and Gold, such glistening Mould,
Tis not my chief care to leave you :
A Riches store, that will endure ;
Whereof this World can't Rob you:
I Count, you to Inherit ;
That each enjoy both Grace and Glory ;
Her few Days might Sing J A H's Praise,
In that Heavens highest Store.
In this End I do Commend,
These dying Words you'd bear in mind :
That clear Voice, therein Rejoyce,
Whenas you have no more one find.
I not me see, one of you be
Amongst Goats standing at Christ's Left Hand.
Judgment-Day, Oh ! that I may,
Find you Entrs of Immanuel's Land.

[1.]

Remember your Baptifmal Vows and
Covevenant, and folemn Engage-
ment therein and thereby lay on
you to be the Lords. Remember

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also your many and frequent Rational Vow
and Promises which your Lips have uttered
and your Mouths have spoken; and whereby
you have bound your Souls in the Days of Ad-
versity. The Great GOD certainly expect-
eth when Pay-day, and when Performance-day
will come. How should the Lord trust you
take your word for the time to come, if you
do not prove true to Him in former Promises
Prov. 31. 2. Eccl. 5. 4, 5, 6. Isa. 63. 8.

[II.]

Beware of the World as being your greatest
Snare and Tempter. The very best account
that Long-liv'd Experience can give of this
world is, that tis a Vain, Empty, Soul entang-
ling, ensnaring world. Remember poor Ge-
bazi; what got he by his Gifts, when the Le-
prosy of Naaman cleaved unto him? *2 King. 5. 26. Mat. 16. 26. Jam. 4. 4.* Remember
how far the Young man in the Gospel was
with Christ, and yet broke off from Christ on
this very account, *Mat. 19. 21, 22.*

[III.]

Remember in your highest Estate to keep
a lowly Heart. The Great God respecteth not
the Proud and Lofty, (*Psal. 135. 6.*) but the
Humble and Lowly; to them will He
show His Love. The high GOD is very lowly
in His Condescension. How low does He stoop to
visit the Lowly? *Psal. 113. 6.* *Quia* your
Mark

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Master is meek and lowly; learn of Him, *Mat*
29. Learn that Golden Lesson to know
our selves; and this will make you loathe
our selves. *The Meek will He guide in judg-*
ment: and the Meek will He teach His way, Psal.
9. Meekness is an Ornament in the Soul;
Ornament in the Conversation; an Orna-
ment of great Price in God's sight, *1 Pet. 3. 4.*

[IV.]

If God give you of the World plentifully;
serve Him the more plentifully & abundantly.
Look on these things as Talents, given not
for the Napkin; but for Use, and your Ma-
sters Praise and Glory. If God raise your E-
state, then let your hearts be proportionably
glorified: As was that good Kings heart, when
the Lord gave him Honour and Riches, his
heart was lift up in the ways of the Lord his
God. If Gods hand be open to you, let your
hearts be open and not strait to Him, *Neh. 9. 35.*
Chron. 17. 6.

[V.]

If a Low Estate be your Lot and Portion
here in this lower world, then furnish your
selves with Paul's spirit of Divine Content-
ment. The least Mercy that we enjoy, is
more than is deserved by us, *Phil. 4. 11, 12.*
Let infinite Wisdom alone with Carving out
our Portion for you, and set down Content-
ment therewith: Let the great GOD, and not
poor

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poor silly Man Rule the world and Order all the affairs thereof. Let not God hear the voice of your Murmurings, when He leads you like *Israel* of old into a Wilderness of wants and sufferings. Man's Life consists not in the abundance of Earthly enjoyments, *Luk. 12. 15.* Neither does Man live by Bread alone; but by every Word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord, *Mat. 4. 4.* GOD alone without any thing of this world is a fair Portion, *Heb. 13. 5.*

[V I .]

Let your dwelling be where God's Ordinances are. It is good dwelling near Neighbour to the God of Glory, *Psal. 65. 4. & 84. 1.* And where God's Ordinances are, there God dwells. Love and frequent the House of the King of Glory, for there has He commanded the Blessing, *Psal. 133. 3.* The worlds accommodations, the best of them are but husks; but the Dainties and Provisions of God's House are full of Marrow and Fatness, *Psal. 63. 1.* --- A Feast of fat things, *Isa. 25. 6.* O wretched is that Soul, that like miserable *Cain* goes out from the Presence, House, and Worship of God into the Land of *Nod* for meer worldly advantages and greatness; starving his Soul to feast that which will in a little time become meat for Worms to feast upon, *Luk. 15.*

[VII.]

Remember to be careful in a strict Observance of the Lord's Day: For then it is that Manna and heavenly Dew falls: Those are the Golden Seasons; and therefore one of those Days spent in the Service of God, is better than a thousand elsewhere. Let not the World or Vanity rob the Lord. *Will a man rob God?* Verily, the great God accounts Himself to be as robbed, when His Day is profaned by vain Thoughts, idle Words, Sloth and Negligence in His Service. Grace nor your Souls will never thrive or flourish, when Sabbaths lie waste and are not duely Sanctified, *Levit. 26. 4, 5. & 58. 13, 14.*

[VIII.]

Dearly Love and Prize the Word of God. God bless'd the house of *Obed-Edom* for his love to and care of the Ark, wherein the words of God was kept. Hide the Word of God in your hearts, as *David, Psal. 119. 11.* Lay up the Word as your Spiritual Riches, Treasures, and Jewels in the Cabinet of your hearts. Lay in and lay up against a spending time, times of Adversity, Temptation, Trial, Spiritual Dark-ness, Death, &c. These are all spending-times: how good is it to be well-stored against a famine? 'Tis bad to have Promises and Encouragements then to seek. If you love not the Word of God, then be sure you love not the

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God of the Word. Love it, live and walk by
it; let it be your daily Bread, Light and Com-
fort, *Job. 23. 12.*

[IX.]

Remember that GOD be Served, what-
ever be Neglected. Let the Lord have a pe-
culiar allowance; and not become an Under-
ling to other Concerns. Reserve and keep
your hearts intire for the Lord. Settle them
upon your hearts as the One thing Needful.
Other things let them be your helps and not
your hindrances, in your Maker's Service. Our
Particular Callings must not interfere with our
General Callings. This world must not be
ver-top that World which is to come. *David*
was of that frame, that he had rather his Meats
and Drink, Sleep and Rest should be omitted
or shornd, than the Lord neglected; rather
his Nature should be denied, than that the
great God should be forgotten, *Psal. 119. 61.*
See Christ's Example for this, *Luk. 6. 12.*

[X.]

Be oft Converging with your Dust to awake
you for Eternity. Put not the Evil Day far
from you. Carry Death and the Grave daily
in your Bosom: Remember that you daily
walk on the borders of the Grave, and dwell
near Neighbours to it. Be not Strangers
to it, at and with your long time. *Eccl. 12. 1.*
Be often looking into your little under-ground

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atage, whether you are on the point of
nsporting. Your goodliness and worldly
ares is like the flower of the field, *Isa* 40 6.
all not of To-morrow, *Prov.* 27. 1. Make
re and delay not to do the work of the Day,
Eccl. 1. 19. 60. Let your work be rather afore-
and than behind with your time. Be ripe
holiness beimes, *Psal.* 39. 4, 5.

[XI.]

Let your main Care and Concern be for the
things of another World, whatever becomes
of this. O be wise for Eternity ; that's the
Wisdom which will make your Face to shine,
Eccl. 8. 1. That will be Life to thy Soul, and
Peace to thy Neck, *Prov.* 3. 21, 22. Be found
like Virgins at the last : Get Oyl into your
Vessels : Get on the Wedding-garment : Put
on the Lord Jesus : Deny all Ungodliness
and worldly Lusts : Live Soberly, Righteously
and Godly in this present evil world, so shall
you lay up treasure in Heaven, and be wise
for your latter End, *Prov.* 19 20.

[XII.]

Command your Children and your Nieces
and after you to keep the ways of the Lord ;
Abraham did, *Gen.* 18. 19 Watch over
them as those that must give an account for
their Souls. Know that their Souls are your
particular Charge above their Bodies. Your
watching, Compassions, endearing Love, yarning

Bowels are best seen in your tender Care and diligent Endeavours for their Souls. Lay up a Stock of faithful and believing Prayers in Heaven for them; for that is better than the best Earthly Stock or Inheritance you can make them heirs to. The Seed of the Righteous are Blessed, *1 Sam. 3. 13.*

[XIII.]

Ever Prize a Dram of Grace before a Talent of Wealth. Honour and Love them that fear the Lord: *David* would chuse such for his Companions, *Psal. 119. 163.* And above all labour after an interest in Christ: 'Tis good to dwell nigh to Him, *Psal. 73. 28.* Get an interest in the Covenant of Grace, those sure Mercies. Be restless till you get your Natures Renewed, your Hearts Changed: Be restless till Sin become exceeding Odious; and Christ and Holiness be infinitely Precious to your Souls. Chuse *Mary's* good part, *Moses's* Choice. See all for the Pearl of great Price. Christ's Fruit is better than Rubies, *Prov. 8. 19. Luk. 10. 42. Heb. 11. 26.* Ever prefer Holiness before Honour, Grace before greatness.

[XIV.]

Make the Plesing of God the Business of your Life. If God is not Pleased with you all is lost, whatever you have been or done, whatever bustle you have made, splendor or great ends aimed at, or professions made

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you, if after all God be not Pleased with you,
is all lost. Make it your care to Please Him
in all things. Should not Children seek to
please their Parents, and Servants their Ma-
sters? O keep your Eye & Heart here fixed,
and you shall steer aright thro' all difficulties,
Heb. 11. 5. Job. 8. 25. Isa. 26: 4:

[X V.]

Keep in with God and a good Conscience.
If you would enjoy a sure and lasting Peace,
then do not violate or wound your Peace with
God and a good Conscience. Get an interest
in God, and be watchful over your interest:
Get a Conscience sprinkled with the Blood of
Christ; and be tender of it: Avoid all known
Sins, Perform all known Duties. And when
through Sin and Temptation, God has been
provoked and Conscience wounded, Oh! then
heartily rise again, and turn to the Lord;
let your hearts grow secure and hardened
no more, *Prov. 16. Heb. 3. 13.*

[X V I.]

Endeavour after a true Brotherly Love:
Love as Brethren; As Joseph Counsels his
Brethren when Travelling towards Canaan,
that ye fall not out by the way, Gen 45 24. 25.
If ye are Travelling towards the Heavenly Canaan;
see then that ye fall not out by the way,
but be mutually helpful one to another;
especially in Soul-Concernments, serve one a-
nother

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nother in Love, Direct and Counsel, Watch
over and faithfully Reprove each other in
Meekness, as there is occasion. It was
graceless Cain, that wretchedly said, *Am I
Brothers Keeper?* One live Coal kindles many
dead ones. Each help to Row one another
to the Haven of Blessedness. Let not any root
of Gall or Bitterness spring up among you
Eph. 12. 15.

[XVII.]

Remember that what ever Mercy you enjoy
you must trace it to Heavens gate. Look
to the Spring and Fountain of every Mercy,
that make you thankful and fruitful, *Jam. 1.*
Know and Consider, that it is Divine Bounty
that Feeds and Cloathes you, that Heals and
Ransoms thy Life from Destruction. Gods
Bounty supplies, His Power supports, His
Wisdom directs, His Everlasting Arm up-
holds, His Goodness and Mercy hath followed
us all our Days. Oh! Know that Door from
whence all your good comes. The Ox knoweth
his Owner and Feeder; the Lion his Keeper.
Isa. 1. 3. Be ye not then like those, in *Hab.*
2. 8

[XVIII.]

Be most Watchful against those Sins and
vices that you find your Tempers, Constitu-
tions, Elements and Cailings mostly Expose you
to. This is the weak place in the Hedge.

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Finally the Serpent, the subtle Tempter goes
at that Door, as being most easily opened.
Set a Watch there. Keep your Souls
from your Iniquity, as *David* says, *Psal.* 18. 23
Every Place, State and Calling carries with
them their peculiar Temptations. *Joseph* in
gypt learns to Swear: And *Lot* in the Moun-
tain has his Snares and Temptations.

[XIX.]

Be ever more strict and severe against your
own Failings, than you are against the Failings
of others. Dwell at home, within-doors, and
You will see and find Work enough to do :
Measure and Judge your selves, and Loathe
your selves; and keep you from Censuring
and Judging others. Ever think when you
see or hear of others fall into Sin; He falls
To-day; it may be my turn To-morrow,
except God's Mercy prevent it. Pity others
and Pray for them under their Failings: but
ever Severe against thine own, *Matth.* 7,
2, 3, 4, *I Cor.* 11, 12,

[XX.]

Finally, Remember that before many Days
is out, a Holy, Just, Impartial GOD will call
you to an Account, and Summons You be-
fore His Righteous Tribunal to Answer for
the Mercies You ever Enjoyed, as Life,
Health, Strength, Sabbaths, Sermons, Chastise-
ments; Yea, for all Your Thoughts, Words
and

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and Actions: Therefore so Live and W
as that You may be able to stand before
Son of Man in the Great Day of His App
ing; and Your Works abide the Trial;
You enter into Your Lord and Master's Jo

THESSE dying Groans and hearty Moan
Let them be laid up in your Mind.

Oh! JESUS dear, do thou me hear,
According to thy Mercies Kind:
My Children all I have, and shall
Unto thy tender Mercies leave;
Them Keep and Teach, and Save them Each,
From Sin and Hell do them Reprieve.
And now I Rest; for me tis Best
To bid Vain Sinful World Farewel:
Here's Vanity, Sin and Misery;
Glory, Glory with Christ doth dwell.
Oh! There's my Hope; those Doors will O
My Longing Soul to Entertain;
For Bridegroom's Face, that Mansion-place:
Oh! Ever there for to Remain.

Grace Smith

F I N I S.