

all of life, Divine and mortal
existence has value, which has
been but the prelude to a state
of eternal existence. To be pre-
pared, for a future existence
should be the great business
of our lives. With all rational
enjoyments of earth we can
blend Religion. In rationalizing
pleasure, or happiness we ought
to reflect, that we are indebted
to God, for every good and full
gratitude, which is an essential
principle of Holiness. Try my
son, and bear those thoughts
on your mind, and seek God,
while you are young. I do
not my son, wish to deprive
you of rational pleasures,
but to induce you to take

Warrington
7th Dec 1836

My Dear Son,

Supposing that you
have written to me since I left
home, and that you will
from now to time, write
me, I am happy to write you,
although I have to say written
to you in my office. This is the
day, on which I am, when at
home, most surrounded with
my dear family, and when far
from them, as the shades of
evening, are thickening around
I feel all the loneliness of my
situation. I compare all the
scenes of past hours of busy

ham, where cheerful, & noisy
children were, and the solitude
of my room, and feel that man
to be happy must be good.
In life's battle, man may
avoid reflection, and baffle
serious meditation, & drive
serious thoughts far from
him; but the time must come
when he must reflect & think,
not only of the past, but
as meditate on the future.

To render these thoughts pleas-
-ant, and be at peace with
ourselves, we shall be care-
-ful, to pass our ^{lives} in such
manners, as will afford us
pleasure when we care to look
back, on the mazes of life thro.

which we have passed.

You my dear son, are now
just rising on the plane of youth,
on which you must advance
to the point of early manhood,
and before you will have time
to reannex the future, you
will find yourself involved, in
in all the cares, and responsibilities
of manhood! Throughout this
stage of life, you must walk
erect, truthful, fearless. Be just,
and fear not! If spared, you will
descend, from this point, like
the sun from its meridian
splendor, to the last stage of hu-
man existence old age.
How to mortal vision the scene
must close. Happily this is not

pleasure in rational enjoy-
ments, and those which
will cause you no remorse,
while they will insure you
happiness here, and hereafter.

And thus things remember,
"What will it profit a man,
to gain the whole world, and
lose his own soul; or what
shall he give in exchange
for his soul?" Read the Scrip-
tures!!!

My son, I have not had
time to look about, but so
soon, as I get a letter from
you, I will write again.

Thy devoted Father
Sam Houston Sam Houston



[Faint, mirrored handwriting visible through the paper, likely bleed-through from the reverse side.]

