

Death.

What a glorious thing is death to those who are prepared for the next world, and how sad and dangerous to those who are not prepared! Death has cut many a family down to mere nothing in comparison to what it was ^{at} first. Some households have not been visited by it at all, but they do not know at what moment one of them may be taken away. Death comes at all times; therefore, be ready at all times to obey its calling. But last week a young boy who lived but a short ~~way~~ ^{distance} from me was running and playing; he stumbled right at his father's door; said he did not feel very well, retired early; and from that couch he never rose again; for the next day his spirit wended its way to heaven. His parents ^{grieved} ~~grieved~~ very much at his loss but he ^{is} ~~was~~ happier now than when on earth. We all know how mournful it is to die; but how mournful must our feelings be especially when we see a little child, who had been wont to cast gleams of sunshine around us by its playfulness and its sweet and innocent talk; and, in our moments of pain and sorrow, was one means of joy, suddenly snatched from us by the ruthless hand of Death. The departure of an older friend from the family circle, may long be mourned; but when the idol of our heart is taken, there is a spot touched that knows no healing. When such a one is taken away,

we feel ourselves smitten by God. But when we see a little one called thus early away from among us; when we see the silvered cord is loosed, we must know our loss is heaven's gain; for the little priceless jewel goes to shine brighter in this crown and but return from whence it came to gladden us. Dr. Price in one of his sermons on Death says "There is no death for those that sleep in Jesus." Then "Watch and pray for you know not at ^{what} time the keeper may come." to call you to a blessed and a happy home above.

June 7th 1863. A. D. Weed
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