

Asbury Theological Seminary

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Correspondence

Hannah Whital Smith

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1983

## Box 1\_12 (Correspondence- Fowell, Abby 1858-1868)

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I think of  
 my dear Hannah  
 he was dead  
 what could  
 they say to  
 him all the  
 while could  
 do was to speak  
 to Jesus - Oh!  
 My Mother's  
 faith - I know  
 that even now,  
 whatever than  
 shall ask of  
 God He will  
 give it thee -  
 And in our act  
 My faith -  
 I'd a great  
 Faith, dear  
 Hannah, remember  
 thy love and  
 pray for  
 me and  
 my  
 mother  
 must comfort  
 for me.

Thy kind letter reached me  
 when I was laid by, and quite un-  
 able to answer it - at least I thought  
 it came during the time I had so  
 much fever and headache, that  
 nothing but quiet and great care,  
 with my Heavenly Father's blessing,  
 kept me from having a long and serious  
 illness - I am so thankful I have  
 been raised up again so soon - and  
 really, Hannah, it was not so much of  
 a trial to be laid aside for a while  
 during those days of most painful  
 preparation, and then the sad, sad  
 funeral, I did not realize it to be so much  
 of a disappointment not to attend it  
 I could not think of Mother being there  
 I so missed her bright smile from the  
 lifeless clay - I never experienced such  
 resignation to the idea of <sup>any one</sup> being asleep

I must be home of me to please him to come to Jesus - but then

alone I have the Father's love

in Jesus, and waiting His coming,  
as some dear Mother did - I always  
thought it so sad, that Heaven with  
all its fullness should not be theirs  
at once - but I feel so sure she is with  
Him, and He cares for and loves His  
dead, to whom He has given sleep -  
I feel she is so safe - She has not heard  
perhaps about her last night - she  
was unusually restless, and wanted the  
nurse not to leave her, but to watch - I was not  
able to be up till about 20 minutes before  
the soul fled - she said in the early  
part of the night "None can help me  
but my dear Heavenly Father, & He will,  
He will," - so assured, was her tone?  
She called oft upon His name - and  
said "God be merciful to me, a sinner"  
and frequently mentioned the name  
of Jesus, "Sweet Jesus, dear Jesus!"  
This was such a comfort to me, it was  
the name I asked might be upon  
her dying lips - Oh Hannah, my

Mother! My Mother! it seems  
so unnatural to have her taken  
away body and soul, and nothing  
left - so strange is death - gone, out  
of sight and hearing, as much as if  
she had never been here, so full of  
life and love, and tenderness - what  
a total loss - what an eclipse  
of the brightest light of earth, which  
ever shone upon my pathway -  
strange, painful, we have to pass, to  
enter into rest - oh me! 'the mystery  
our life and death' - all that  
seems to be decided is, that it should  
all be our part - there seems nothing  
we have to care for at all - except God's  
will, that I might love - and I do  
bless Him for the kindness & gentle-  
ness with which He dealt with  
my sweet Mother, & with me - oh,  
Hannah how fair would my Mother's  
love shielded and guarded me from  
all that pains - and yet how powerless

is it now - but there is an ever abiding  
love that would more lovingly watch  
over me for good, lest any hurt the  
plant of His rearing - may I say?  
and only on the authority of Scripture  
could I dare to say it, lest any touch  
"the apple of His eye" - oh that I  
may walk in Him & live in Him &  
trust Him with loving childlike  
faith - to perfect that which concerneth  
me - is not that a most comprehensive  
prayer - I asked it often for my darling  
there seems nothing left out of that  
perfection - and as for details we  
know so little what we need really -  
I hear dear Hannah there and thine  
are bright and well - I am so relieved  
to have thee happy in the Lord, and  
triumphant in Him -

I am sorry to keep thee so long  
from knowing my Cousin "William  
Tolluill" <sup>address</sup> he has just  
moved from Camden or its neighborhood  
and gone to "Woodstown, New Jersey" -  
I wrote to him while he was at the  
old place I do not know whether he  
got it or not, I have had no answer, but  
I hardly expected it from the shy boy -  
from fellow, he has exerted an evangelical  
influence around him, that I know of  
If thee ever prays for me do pray that I may  
be of some use to somebody - I have sent p. Jesus to  
Wm. to come to my dear father, but he stays still in the  
same place where he was, it seems - I have often thought