

Asbury Theological Seminary

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Correspondence

Hannah Whitall Smith

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1983

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

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My Precious Son  
My Beloved Friend  
My dearest & dearest Friend  
The confessed cause of my neglect

of thee, dear H, as far as writing to thee is concerned, there was right in feeling that my anxious sympathy was with thee in the ordeal of thy darling's dangerous illness - and that I rejoice with thee in her recovery and perhaps still more in thy having been made more than conqueror through faith & submission to God's sweet will - I wonder ~~not~~ <sup>not</sup> that it has seemed to bring thee nearer to His side - Is it not blessed to feel Grace and Divine Power triumphing over Nature - can we say it always causeth us to triumph as the Apostle said - Dear precious Hannah, how near thou feels some cold and forgetful as I have summers indeed my household cares have been

Anna  
I have  
beside  
the class  
on first  
day in the  
unusually large  
little class of  
young  
children  
not  
that do  
understand  
and have  
compts.  
gathered  
them  
many  
of  
the trust  
in his  
help  
seen much like Heavy Discipline  
but I have never, and can never  
sufficiently commemorate the tender  
care of my Father, who has given me  
such rest from an evil conscience  
from which I had been suffering  
since my conviction on the subject  
of baptism - how very graciously  
He has fulfilled the lovely promise  
given me at the time, when I brought  
this my little into His stanchise,  
and no evil or trial has come nigh  
my dwelling, on this account - I  
can't think this is owing to anything  
but my Reper's care - & I have faith  
to believe my parents will now have  
the unnecessary pain - I have perfect  
peace of conscience in regard to this  
step of not informing them - I was  
greatly shocked, that may well know, on  
hearing James W's impression of the

clandestine, dishonorable manner  
in which he heard it was accomplished.  
I trust H.C.J. entirely removed it - do  
tell me Hannah if the Firm (I think  
they are firm) owns the Maurice  
River? This brother has treated me  
personally with much Christian for-  
bearance, & courtesy - I esteem him  
very highly, he is indeed an enlightened,  
liberal man - I am willing, I believe,  
to trust Jesus with all the future  
suffering I may endure on account of  
these convictions - I never have felt  
(oh yes, I did once too, when I was  
wasted by anxious fear) that the  
cause was not worth so much suffering  
at least that these outward acts were  
too unimportant - but Jesus restored  
calmness, and I'll praise Him for it -  
Anything that brings the soul alone  
with God, is indeed strengthenis to  
its faith, & conducive to its growth

to feel all earthly joys & dependence impelled — and the soul left to lean alone on Jesus — how the Divine life of the soul seems invigorated by this close contact — not with sorrow but with Him who brings it "It is not true that the sorrows trouble to His children — but comes with it" — does He not? We miss our Bible class much — had Mr Knight's interesting company one evening — and again he came out to Hannah's next door — and gave us a lesson on the Types —

What does thee think of the idea of Adam sharing voluntarily the humiliation & curse of his wife — as a type of Christ willingly entering into the position of his rejected & disobedient bride — the church — ? Did thee ever think of Joseph's returning the money to his brethren as a lesson of the grace of our beloved Saviour who when we come to buy the bread of life — gives it free? It just struck me as we were considering Joseph as a type of Christ — this might be the lesson — I am so much engaged at home I cannot get to see Anna all summer I expect we shant do as Aunt Jane somewhat better than when she came — Muster is very fable & often fills my heart with apprehension of comingorrow — what a rest where Jesus to give our loved ones to — as a treasure to keep them safe for us — Has thee heard about Harry's first Missionaries labors at Chinkatique Island — how long they found them & how they were filled — I demand even further the best gifts — that thou mayst know the work given thee to do.