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**D-329 2:47: Transcription of Letter from Catherine Bement to Elizabeth Lewis, May 13, 1848**

*This transcription contains language contemporaneous of the time and is being presented as part of a historical record. Please note that the transcription has not been reviewed for final editing.*

Farmington May 13 1848

My Dear Lissy

Your old friend the Lemon tree has just been placed in the waggon and your dear husband is about to depart with it to Harford the things are mostly packed and in the close of another week you will probably have the impossible pleasure of again embracing your dearest earthly friend. is it not consoling? Dear Libby to know that there is one in this troublesome world, to whom you can confide your joys and sorrows, one who will sympathize, council, and direct you in lifes journey, and in addition to this, to know and feel that you will never be separated except it be for a reason, and then to be reunited. Watch over one another kindly, advise, council and lead one another in the right way. and this you be better here, and better prepared for enjoyments in the world to come. Our Sewing Society I am sorry to say is not in a very flourishing condition, and it troubles me the more, because I fear it will be attributed to the inefficiency of the directress, and yet if I could see anything that I could do to stir up the ladies to activity I would do it cheerfully. We are getting a little more active and I begin to feel a little encouraged. In behalf of the Society I send you a needle book and vase, the latter we send not for its beauty but it may be useful to you. You can put it in the sitting room and it will retain the lamplights, as well as if it were beautiful, will you accept as testimony of our esteem and gratitude to you for your usefulness in our society the past year, our thoughts and conversation often refer to you, and we trust that we are not altogether out of memory.

You will perhaps be surprised to learn that Mrs Edward Whitman has been carried to the Retreat. You know she was in a very bad state of mind before you went away. She has been growing worse and she is now deranged, on friday night of last week she left the house about eleven o clock and went down to the canal with the intention of throwing herself into it, but finding the water quite cold she desisted. she went in her night clothes and although her husband was in bed with her none of the family knew anything till she related the above facts to them the next morning. Its horrible to think of.

Have you heard of the change in the post department? It has been taken from G. D. Cowles and John Thompson (opposite) has been appointed Post Master. Henry Lewis Esq. Deputy Clerk, great changes here. the office in in the old Brick Store just below us, quite convenient withal, my companion the headache made me a visit yesterday, and as it is assumed the form of sick headache I have not completely recovered from it yet. Bently and Manrose called last evening, Sarah is expecting to teach school this summer in the upper room of the Seminary, tis being done off, as it is not quite ready she will commence Monday in our house. I have prepared your

patterns for you and if your quick eye should detect any irregularities in the basket pattern you can easily remedy them. Mr Newell has returned home with all the honors that the title of Counsellor at Law can give he has really been admitted to the bar. May success attend his efforts. Mrs Bartlett is home now, she is quite feeble, she has a little daughter about six weeks old. I took a horseback ride yesterday morning, just a short one to learn how.

Henry Dodd and Charley were out here a few weeks since, made a short call however.

I hope you excuse this unconnected letter, and let me hear from you very soon

from your affectionate            Caty

Monday morning\_\_\_\_\_ Aunt Clara is putting her things in readiness, I must close with a few lines. Frank went to Haver last week tuesday.

Will probably remain there for the present. Clara Cowles was married last week. John called her last evening, Tom came out and spent the day. If you had been here twould have seemed quite like old times. We are all well, do write as soon as convenient. I supposed you will be very busy for a time but hope you will find time to write soon.

Again yours affectionately

Catherine

Samuel sends respects