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Susan Ursin Niemcewicz to John Kean, September 29, 1830

Susan Ursin Niemcewicz

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Ursinow Sep^r 29th. 1830.

My very dear child

It is one of my greatest satisfactions
to hear from my dear children, ^{that they} are well Julia & your
well as yourself has written me a most
affectionate letter she declined coming home on Saturday
that she might study hard & get advanced in her
class. ~~She~~ she says that she must forego every idea
of pleasure till she can recover the time lost by
being absent from school. You my dear son I hope
will seriously reflect on the importance of
every hour at your period of life when the
powers of your mind will be daily strenghtned
by close application to those books which are
by the wisdom of your teachers pointed out for
your advantage. Think, think my beloved child

of the sacred duties which have devolved upon ^{you} by the dark dispensation of Divine Providence in removing your dear Father from us, it is to you my son that ~~members~~ ^{responsibility} took up to fill his place & to fill it like a gentleman of Education who ~~Duty it is~~ to avail himself of the advantages which his friends have taken pains to procure for him. Consider my love the situation of your dear Mother, & Sisters, who must depend greatly on your mental exertions to make them feel easy in the place which providence seems to have designed for them, in the best society & which it will ^{be} an honor to you to see them fill & do not forget the pangs it will occasion your ~~Old~~ Grand Mother if the hopes & expectations which have been raised for you should be ~~frustrated~~ frustrated by any inattention on your part. Devote your leisure moments to such reading as will mend the heart & improve the mind, this perhaps is the last time I may

Be able to write you, the cold allready pinches me
& my heart is full. My love to W^m Palmer his friends
are all well. May the Almighty bless you.

Your Affec^{te} Friend & Grandmother.

Suzi. Niemcewicz

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[Faint, illegible embossed or printed text, possibly a watermark or address, partially obscured by a hole]

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Master John Kean

Highland School near
Cold Spring
Putnam County.

State of New York.