Delivered, on the occasion of the
funeral service of Wm. A. Lawrence
& J. R. Waldo, No. 2, 5. m. Kings Corn.
Feb 15th, 1844. P.M. 1844, to a crowded
& solemnly affected audience.

Watch therefore, for ye know neither
the day nor the hour wherein the Son
of man cometh.
1 John iv. God is love.

We are assembled, my friends, religiously
to improve the solemn & affecting events
of the past week. God by his providence
has added to us with too loud & distinct
note to awaken the most apathetic heart,
the attention of the most callous. In an
unanticipated moment, one highly esteemed
& much endeared by his many friends, is
now in his grave, hast suddenly departed this
life. A peal of thunder at noon day & from
a cloudless sky, could not out strife at my
parting tears.
This last occurred in quick recollection to a familiar sight by which another well-known to fame if not in full health, was after a few hours illness and also departed this life.

The import of the words addressing us from the grand of Waldron of Lawrence, seem translatable into the language of the Savior, selected for our text: "Watch therefore for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh."

It is necessary to illustrate the import of the term so obvious, of the term watch. As used by the Savior it means to be attentive, vigilant in preparation for an event the time of whose arrival is uncertain. The attentive mind, which in mariners looks out for danger, navigating unexplored seas, and the future, every man's life is to him untried, or with which
In watching the rising flames, very well express
the eagerness of care implied by watching in
a Thirteenth Tense. In the parallel passage
of another of the Goethe the expression is
be ye ready for in such an hour as ye
think not the Son of man cometh.

The sentiment of the remaining clause,
for ye know not the day nor the hour
wherein the Son of man cometh, is that
the time of our death is unknown. We
know not the day nor the hour. of this
contented that on account of this
ignorance it will be unexpected. It is
not difficult to obtain the assent of men
to this general proposition, tho' they seldom
practically admit its applications to
themselves individually. All men think
all men mortal, but themselves.

Selah, when some alarming shock of fate, strikes through
their hearts, the sudden death; but their hearts wounded
like the wounded air from close; then just the slant no trace
is found; as from the wing no form the sky retains; the parts
wear no feature from the sky. So died its human heart.
The present is one of those subjects which require not argument to convince of their truth, but considerations to impress upon the mind and conscience the familiar facts and their great importance. The Scriptures, however, abound in explicit testimony upon this doctrine, evidenced expressed by the most impressive metaphors. For man knoweth not his time, as the fishes are taken in an evil net, and as the birds are Caught in a snare; or all the toils of men are laid in an evil time when it falleth suddenly upon them. But the time of the feast, keep the feast, the likeness ye. I am no more that I write unto you for yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. One of the designs of the Parable from which the truth is taken, is to teach that the event under consideration is sudden and unexpected. While the bridegroom tarried.
they sprinkled a hept. And at
midnight there was a cry made.
Behold the bridegroom cometh, go ye
out to meet him."

Facts. These representations are confirmed by
numerous experiences and observations. Facts
continually occurring authorize the opinion
that the majority of those who have departed
this life were taken by surprise. They were
not expecting to die the year or the month
they did. The student on entering college
did not expect to die before he graduated.
He who had entered upon his profession
al student did not anticipate he should
never complete them. The youthful pair
looking forward to the day when by the
termination of a Christian institution they
should be united, did not presume that
death would defeat their purpose. Affec
tionsate parents surrounded by blooming
offspring expected not they were destined
to an early tomb, or if not, that they were
to be left youthful or sound in the world,
The mariner who left his family, his friends, and his home, after a few months to labor, did not expect he should never return to the embrace of those friends and the delights of that home leaving his command in a place he sought in distant lands. The world of affluence, beauty, glory, or in a foreign climate. But on returning home, did not his mind dwell on their return of this unexpected event? What happened occurred in circumstances of instance. The laws of Divine Providence by which God regulates these occurrences remain unaltered, so that what hath not ended in relation to the dead will undoubtedly recur in what to the memory of the living.

Of the justness of these events a multitude of afflictive Providence all over the world of ancient occurrences, are calculated most clearly to impress us. The sudden rending catastrophe that occurred in another hemisphere, by which men in high stations of influence and public favor were exploded from the world, was just in our recollection.

But my friends, point nearer as it were.
Lord address us. We are not assembled to pronounce encomiums upon the dead. In respect to one of the recently deceased our acquaintance has been too brief & partial to enable us to do it with justice of the other, till his recollections shall have faded from their memory. If those who knew & esteemed him, the calum of Wm. A. Lawrence will remain engraven there with thoughts & emotions better & stronger than language ever could express. It is with the circumstances of their deaths, rather than the virtue of their lives, that we are especially interested now. The one, on Saturday night was active in his ordinary duties, intelligence that day, from home had tinged the horizon of his earthly hopes with new & bright & fixed, their deaths are said to have been particularly mourned. At 9 P.M. he complained of slight pain which increased till they declared themselves in the violent
Phaenomen of Asiatic Cholera which continued till they were succeeded by the usual stage of collapse. A friend, unwilling that an interval of sensibility that occurred should pass unimproved to apprise him of his solemn situation, informed him of his situation. A terror was abroad to press through his friends, whom made acquainted, as judiciously as possible, that he could not long survive. About 11. de Sab. Morning, by his desire, I was requested to visit him then supposed to be dying. I found him apparently gathering his last breaths. In a little time however he called to us to recognize me. I returned an intelligent answer to my inquiries. Desired the leading of the Jehovah's Najade? A number of friends assembled to assist in addressing the Throne of Murg. On arising from his bed side he put forth his hand and said, "I do not go." He next asked if he understood what had been said?
in the affirmative. The tone was apparent
during prayer. for it was observed that
when allusions was made to his absent
friends he clasped his hands to express
strong emotions. A friend then entreated
him to turn his thoughts upon his situation
and prospects to improve his remaining
moments of considerate assistance he was left alone.

After an interval of some minutes I
found him still sensible as it appeared
acceptable I endeavored to impart such
directions & consolations as the God of
alone even afford to the dying.

Soon after he began to decline in
All this to 1 tenderness first he when he
expressed. His impressions renewed by this
death was tended will not soon he forgot to
understand that on the supposition of
omitted preparation for death how great
the disadvantage, for doing it when
the hour of dissolution arrived the
Christian
offered the duty of fidelity to the living.
Mr. Lawrence, as you are aware, a few evenings since went to Manipura. When near to the seashore sitting upon the edge of the boat sociably with his friends, by some accident most precipitately into the water.

No exclamation, no sound. No struggle was observed, alike he went down no more. He who a moment before was full of life and animation. So! Where is he?

This body sunk to the bottom his brain pursuing its troubled flight, to God who gave it. The feelings of the friends present are better conceived than expressed. The tears that involuntarily started flowed as the eye caught the flag half-mast, which proclaimed to this community that death had invaded it. That Lawrence would no more return to it. That the one who loved the life, a delight of the friendly family circle, whenever he wished it, would not delight it no more. These tears did not hearken...
The strength of our attachment in the decline of our friendship, how we felt when took a turn to abruptly farewell.

We arrived at Muchnow to pay the last solemn rites of friendship and vigil of the grave. Again the flag half mast from one end of the field to the other.

In the destruction of national distinction, unwove the impulsion that death had filled that song. As we pass to the opens plain of interment, the minute guns contributed their voices also to proclaim that one was holding no ordinary place in the esteem of his countrymen and friends, but being consigned to his long home.

Cut down in the midst of life, while pursuing his projects for the future, were brightest, but before earth's highest joys had been realized.
Dear friends, these solemn events administer to a great & salutary admonition to us. They speak as with the voice of God, Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh. If these warning shall[P.2] pierce upon any one whose peace is not yet made with his Creator, to improve the present moment in preparing to meet his God, who may summon him to his bower at any instant, or if there providential shall be to forewarn him of the hour, the unexpected hour of desolation, he who by communing with his god all in to the hands of the Redeemer have obtained an humble assurance that death shall not find them unprepared. If in consequence they shall be led to a more sober, peaceful life, & to greater diligence in the discharge of their religious
duty, then the merciful intentions of providence in these afflictive distri-
ctions will not have been defeated.

This is a hindrance often in the long
A event similar to the one we are con-
templating. Having their full in
fluence, I allude to a method by which
the keen edge of such providences are
warded off. Men yield to suggestions
at first. This sudden death of my neigh-
bor, friend or relation, is a very solemn
call to all to me, among the list to be
also ready for I receive with great distinct
ness of it is even to, “in only an hour at the
think not the face of man ever. To
may he at evening, at midnight, or at
or the evening, but there must be something
peculiar in this most case. There may
have been physical cause which
constituted to bring about a sudden
death. Or the physician was not called
in time, the nature of his disease was not detected, the wrong medicines were administered. I am not aware in my way, that an apprehension exists to a sudden death except in my constitution. Here applying instances of known frailty are exceptions to the general rule. The probability is I shall live for years, retain my reason to the last, accomplish all my plans whether for personal aggrandizement or for the good of others. to die a natural death is seen in the entrance of dearest earthly friends. Then may be in the disposition of the mind a merciful design. It is easy to conceive there may be such a sense of the uncertainty of life as to dispel all fear, to take away all anxiety. Such a state is not desirable. The aim ought to be to avoid either extreme. Let us cultivate such a sense of the uncertainty of life, that while we live over plant
in obedience to living long, if such be the divine pleasure, I shall not leave any present duty neglected with the hope of as favorable an opportunity in future. Yet of this only one is guilty, who from any cause whatever, omit to yield his heart to Christ to day, regarding his salvation when the infinite uncertainty of a future contingent event.

If the obstacles pointed out exist in relation to any of us, let us be forewarned, cautioned not to be thus deceived. Those whose deaths we lament had no more reason than we have to suppose they should be suddenly surprised by the King of terror. Neither of them expected to die this year. But me the how it had been. In some frailty, the human liability to sudden death, long over us. Would the God we may realize it as the only. Correctly viewing this, is no such thing as an accident in the Providence
of him before whom the hairs of our
head are numbered, without whose
notice not a sparrow falls to the ground.

The recent deaths have not escaped
by us whom we know all
his works from the foundations of the
world; it be ought to regard them, as
manifests of our own frailty and mortality.

Let me assure you dear friends, God
has a design, an eternal design
in such preserving as has occurred
the last week. Be assured it is God who
is ordering these events. Will it be a mon-
ter might aspire him, or perhaps defeat
him. Let the potsherd strive with the best
shield of earth, but God is him who stand-
with God! The climates belong to
God. He controls all the events of climate,
of the mead of health, and he will disjoin of
them to his own glory; they are means
got that as his pleasure.
 Methinks I love him so, judgment is my strange work; but I am also a God of love. If I must think again, rather than any worldly forfeit I will do it. Whose next in may common to his lord would tell no one would know. It may be some one in full health. When God ordains it, the process will not be long, by which death and things every man, below the highest himself leaves the golden bowl, dash'd the pitcher at the fountain of the wheel at the ephraim, so that the dust returning to the earth, dust to dust, dust to dust, dust to dust. I the spirit return'd unto God who gave it to be ready. Do thou therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.

The subject we have contained in the Word contained by the providence of God, reminds us of the importance of being prepared for the hour of death. When the bridegroom
came those who were closely entangled in
and the door was shut. It was too
late for admission when the foolish
budgets returned from supplying the
jars with oil. They cried no doubt
with earnestness, Lord, Lord, when unto
us. It was too late to purpose. They were
and when I jog unto you I know you
not. I left as he addressed my friend, if death
come upon us unprepared to meet our Judge
are condemned forever. He who waited upon
us for many years, it employed to many
methods to induce us to prepare for his
coming will not be delayed by our cries,
or by our entreaties. The execution of
God's will shall lay his hand upon us
to his judgment seat, when the sentence
will be passed, our character and state for
eternity will be unalterably determined.
I cannot forbear remarking how happy
the life of such as are prepared for the most
mortal artist of death. Such was the wise
vigint, who had nothing to do but to arise and enter with the bridesmaids to
the marriage. Such are Christians
who maintain a devout and prayerful
life. Those who most hearken, love
week and daily communion with God,
are lovers of his word, diligent in every duty
foremost in this, fearing the Lord. Then
let the tempest rise and dash them upon the
rock, or the flood fill their plate vases in
the dead, let the midnight affright, or the
noon day suffusion, set on them, or let the
malignant disease suddenly cut off life,
Angels Crown are in readiness to bear their
husbands and comforted their with death
never come.
We have assembled this evening our friends not for a more formal service. We wish to make a practicable improvement of the deaths that have occurred, more particularly of one we esteemed & last knew & who recently met us at Sabbath & was in our midst to whom this day was his first Sabbath in Eternity. What practical influence shall be produced upon this community from which he has been removed? Will any one like that any differently? Will any remembering that each Sabbath may be his last, induce to make this day more solemnly & in more monumental in attending upon divine service whenever it is held? Will any one be induced to resolve that no secular employment shall disturb the quietness of that Sabbath? Let the voice that pleads for these things from the grave be heard & to affirmatively by the living. As I left the deathbed of Waldron, two convictions were renewed upon my
Mind: the first truth that on the supposition of non-preparation for death, how great the disadvantages for making it when the hour of dissolution is come! The greatness of the work, the thoroughness of the time, destroy and confound the merit, operations. The bounds of the body or the weakness of the mind disqualify for the most momentous duty concern of life. The other instruction was the duty of Christian fidelity to the living, when no immediate apprehensions of death overwhelm the mind. When the faculties are all in full vigor, the performer, subject connected with the condition of the head, the dark themes of the Gospel of Christ, can be studied, difficulties doubtless removed. Penitence & contrition have full force; & Christian joy & gratitude go forth in prayer & praise, & Pity leads opportunity to promote its lovely fruit.
A remembrance to Lord. I shall not long for
get these impressions to under their
influence, depend as they have been
by the decease of our friend who will
meet us here no more, I address you
this evening. My friends! I address you
all. Are you prepared without further warning
or preparation to close your business on earth?

to resign your thrones at any moment
into the bosom of your Maker? Divine grace
be magnified for such an envious state.
Or have you anything of indissoluble
importance that can be done only in this
day I done by you last in which you
wish to perform before you die? Let
be affectionately entreated to attend to it without
delay. I remember benevolently to watch for ye know
not the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man
cometeth. And when he cometh, may he find
grace to cease the world without regret, with
joy assemble confidence commending our
praise to the Lord Jesus Christ, may he and
or mentally at least, though it doesn’t mean it is the thing! O praise whom is the victory, thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.