

On the employment of time in youth.

Much of the happiness and felicity of old age, depends on the character, which is formed, and the manner, in which the season of youth is spent. The season of youth, being the pleasantest, and the best part of life, ought to be spent in accumulating useful knowledge, in habituating itself to virtuous and moral principles; and in forming a character, which will gain the respect, and esteem of the learned, and wise; and, in a word, preparing for a happy old age. In the season of youth, "Now is the seed time of life; and according to what you sow, you shall reap." It is then very essentially necessary, that we should not let the season of youth pass, void of improvement. Our character is now forming for the whole course of our future years, and it is in some measure put into our own hands. We ought then, ^{well} to consider the employment of this important period of life. We ought to consider it as the highest trust, which ~~shall~~ will ever be committed to us. Our time ought to be spent, in the season of youth, that, when we arrive at the years of manhood, we shall be able to occupy an honourable station among the most respectable and useful part of mankind. Every moment of the season of youth ought to be spent in learning something, which will influence the happiness of our future years.

Rev. Hampton Academy, Dec. 22, 1824.

Evans Pigeon