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DESCRIPTION OF REPRODUCED ITEM:

Elizabeth Huntington. ALS (Elm Valley), to Edward, 1841 Jan 1. In: Porter-Phelps-Huntington Family Papers, box 12, folder 5).

Elm Valley Jan. 1st 1841-

Dear Edward, I shall begin with the usual salutation, "I wish you a happy New Year" - probably it has been addressed to you many times in the course of the day, but I venture to say that in no case has it proceeded from a more sincere and earnest desire than in the present. I wish you not only a happy New year, but happiness all the way thro'; and not only the present year, but all the years which may measure your mortal existence; But ^{even} this is a mere trifle to care for, when compared with the countess eyes of eternity - This is something real; and when we reflect that every hour of the present life will have a bearing upon the life which is to come we feel that there is a value in every moment almost inconceivable.

I shall not think of answering your last letter, which was written the first of Nov., as we have repeatedly men. each other since; and many of the evils which we then felt or feared have been avoided or turned into blessings. How effectual is our experience? -

Adrian very justly says
gudge not the Lord by fable sense,
But trust him for his grace;
Behind a frowning Providence,
He hides a smiling face..

Theodore left us before five on Tuesday morning - I pressed him to write you and send the lines you requested - but he declined - he is a little modest; it must be that, for he was quite at leisure the evening before he left.

The celebration of Christmas at the Unitarian Church was quite an interesting occasion - Theophilus and Ellen, and Theodore and Bethia attended - Mr. Dwight's sermon was upon the word of the angel, "glory to God in the highest, on earth peace goodwill to men." They were much pleased with it. The church was decorated with great taste - the candles and lamps were interspersed with the evergreens very fancifully - and back of the pulpit was suspended against the wall, a large cross made of evergreens intertwined. Around the pulpit there were about seventy lights. - But as I ~~was~~ was not there my description must be very inadequate, perhaps not more so than it would have been had I been an eye witness. - Charles and Ellen sent for us to dine with them, and not knowing that you had been up on the sabbath previous, they had strong hopes that you two would be there; they were however disappointed, and their turkey ^{was} shared by their expected friends, as your brothers and sisters did not

We are expecting your dear year long which with much interest to be careful that your
comes and returns to not please you of your peaceful reform - anxiety of mind when

There are a few things your dear mother has with much interest - be careful that your
care and labour do not deprive you of your needful repose - anxiety of mind weighs
upon the body, and weakens the mind, and thus both go down together -
I can't you find a corner of your father's
remains your dear mother's - the two great
wants of a large family - they are subtlety and
right to hold a common plan in
the evening of your life -
I visited above seventy, only about fifty

till towards night. They drank tea - then and
went to the church together children and all, and
the house. The church was quite full. -
I had a visit from Charles and Helen on Wednesday
engaged to give a lecture before the Lyceum
here, left his wife here and went out for the
" but found there had been a mistake, the
was Tuesday evening; so he returned and
the evening there. Tuesday evening they had a
party at their house, with a view of paying
their debts which had been long accumulating.
I visited above seventy, only about fifty

A letter came from William to Boston last
night, and a few lines to your father. They seem to
be the overflowing of a full heart - a heart almost
ready to burst with affection for his wife and child.
The Lord in mercy grant that it may not diminish
his zeal and devotion in serving his Maker.

It is nearly three months since we have heard
from our friend in Paris. - I think much of Elizabeth.
Should she be in affliction, her heart would yearn
for her kindred - but there is a friend always near.
On him let us lay our burdens, and in his compassionate
ear, pour out our devout supplications. -

We are expecting Frederic the first part of the week
may we not see you also before long? This cold
weather, makes me almost wish that I could inspect
your accommodations for the night. The Lord watch over
and bless us all. -
truly yours Elizabeth

D. Huntington P.M.

Free

North Hadley

Jan 7 1846

Mr. Edwin J. Huntington

Sabotville

Sp.:

MS

