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DESCRIPTION OF REPRODUCED ITEM:

Elizabeth Huntington. ALS to Frederic Dan Huntington. In: Porter-Phelps-Huntington Family Papers (box 12, folder 8).

Mr. Frederic D. Huntington

Cambridge
Mrs. H. S. Huntington

Blm Valley June 15th 1840-

Dear Frederic,

By your letter to Boston which we received on the sabbath, we were glad to learn that you are in health, and that your mind is in a state to enjoy the beauties and splendors of this most delightful season. When the head is sick and the heart faint, nothing can give us satisfaction. Let us then for very tranquil & cheerful day render our devout thanks to that merciful Being, who is crowning our lives with his blessings, and endeavour to make every thought word & act of our lives one continued sacrifice to him.

On Friday Helen expects to leave home, with her mother and Fanny, for Boston, and Boston is to take her place at Northampton. You need not be fearful that too much will be left for me to do. Trust to us that we shall be careful and prudent, and with the blessing of God we may hope to prosper.

Your Father had some disturbances in his stomach & bowels on Saturday night, consequently he was obliged to take some medicines, and did not go out on the sabbath. B. T. and I went to Am. your little niece was baptised Mary Elizabeth. Dedicated to God in the way of his appointment in the congregation of his people. Mr. Dwight administered the ordinance with great self-possession, and what was more than all to be noticed, was the deep and affectionate interest he manifested in the spiritual welfare of its immortal souls. with the kindest expression of feeling, he welcomed the

little stranger
to our Christian privileges and hopes." His prayers for the
parents and the child were peculiarly appropriate, solemn &
 fervent. Indeed I have great hopes that his labours will be so
directed and blessed by the Spirit of God, that many, not only
our dear children who are there, but many who are apparently
unconcerned may become deeply concerned to secure the
 blessings of salvation. He has a meeting for religious conversa-
 tion weekly on Saturday evening at the church, and a meeting
 of teachers of the sabbath school once a month. If his health
 continues, and his zeal does not abate, I shall expect some
 improvement in the moral and religious aspect of our society.

He seems to have laid aside his mysterious phraseology in
 a great degree. — Now I am upon the subject of
 preaching, I have some curiosity perhaps you will call it,
 to know how you succeeded at the farm school.

Thursday morn 10 o'clock. The funeral of Judge Finchley is to be attended
 this afternoon, and your father intends to go over, he will also carry
 over Bethia. Theophilus and Theodore have each had an
 attack of nausea, and vomiting, it came on at night last
 only a short time, and seemed to subside by the next morning
 the same weakness remains; perhaps owing to the operation
 of the medicine they took. It seems like the illness your
 father had Saturday night. We are thankful it is no worse,
 these frequent infirmities, ought to remind us, that we hang
 by a slender thread over the grave, or rather to take a
 more serious view of the subject, it should excite us to
 a more habitual readiness to lay aside this corruptible,
 that we may put on incorruption. Lord increase our faith.

We have admitted into our north room a large family
 not less in number than thirty thousand; they are very pleas-
 able, but hungry. Your father busies himself with procuring
 their food; it is well there is no need of working for them.

The time draws near when we may hope to see you
 again. In about four weeks if the Lord will. What are your

plans for the fourth of July. I think it becomes christians who
 profess to be governed by the great law of love, ~~would do well to~~
 to enquire how they may most effectually had the mind of
 the unthinking, to examine into the cause of the unhappy
 state of our political affairs. These whig conventions will do little
 good. The abominations of slavery are at the bottom of all
 our national troubles, and till this is abolished, until we
 can place at the head of our government, those who are in
 principle opposed to the system of slavery, we cannot expect
 relief. Must we not expect the judgment of the Allmighty
 on such a nation of offenders? — At any rate let every
 christian devote a good share of the day, which is so improperly
 celebrated by the firing of cannon, the ringing of bells,
 and the noisy and unmeaning mirth of the throng
 and vicious, ~~the day~~ to earnest &
 devout prayer, that we may become a penitent
 and reformed people. — A day of public humiliation
 and prayer would be far more appropriate and
 more acceptable to our justly offended Father than the
 any other offering we could make.

I thank you for your letter, it has remained unnoted too long.
 Theodore was so much flattered with your proposal for
 carrying on the correspondence, that he immediately wrote.
 It happened at the time I had set for writing.

We have Mr. Beman preaching at N. B. or rather the
 people there have. He studied with professor Worcester &
 was recommended by him. He is very catholic in his
 preaching and an agreeable man in conversation. He drank
 tea here two or three weeks ago. — Your aunt called
 her last evening, and I offered to read a letter to Eliza by
 Helen. — if she read it over, I shall enclose it for
 you to forward to her. — Hope it will not give you much
 trouble. The Lord bless you now and forever.
 yours most truly E. H. P. The