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**DESCRIPTION OF REPRODUCED ITEM:**

Elizabeth Huntington. ALS (Elm Valley), to Mary, 1832 May 11. In: Porter-Phelps-Huntington Family Papers, box 12, folder 12.

Elm Valley May 11th 1832 —
Friday four oclock —

Dear Mary, By this time I think you must be near your journeys end — We have spoken of you often and thost of you much oftener — and endeavouring to ~~[illegible]~~ you to heavenly guidance and protection we would fear no evil. Some sorrowful reflections obtruded themselves as you rode off — and our beloved Catherine came into view — and — but I do desire to say it is well — has not God a right to do what he will with his own —? Did not his own spirit mould her in some degree into the image of his son? — and should we not praise that mercy which has given us so much reason to hope that the days of her mourning are ended —? let it be our chief care to copy her example in every thing wherein she was an imitator of our blessed Redeemer.

The same afternoon that you left us, Mrs. Hitchcock and Sarah Phelps drank tea with us, Sarah went home before dark, but your aunt H — staid till near nine, when Giles came after her.

Yesterday morning your Pa brought Miss Hubbard and she is here yet, she has basted Bethia's black silk — and mine — a calico for me also — and a factory gingham for E — and M — she will finish tonight — yesterday and today I have been quite busy in the kitchen, attending to a chemical

Saturday mon. I send you a piece of my gown. Last evening Bethia Theophilus and I spent an hour at your uncle's. Sarah expects to go to Boston the last of next week — we have heard nothing from Elizabeth

D. Huntington P.M.
Free
Hadley M Mills
May 12th
Miss Mary D. Huntington
Troy
N. York

process in the pot-ash kettle - have succeeded very well so far, hope to finish to morrow. - Having had company - and been rather more occupied than usual, we have not yet had a full sense of the change in our family circle - but saturday night I think will bring the subject home. Let these separations, stimulate us to renewed zeal and fidelity in the great work of life - especially let us welcome the sabbath - and employ its peaceful hours in preparing for, and endeavouring ~~and endeavouring~~ to gain some foretaste of those sublime and glorious employments - which we now occupy and delight the inhabitants of heaven. - Perhaps you will continue the study of the bible as you have been doing thro' the winter; you can write off the questions for yourself, and if Bethia will write them for Frederic you can compare them after you return. - I think it is also a good plan to commit to memory devotional passages of the Psalms, which you may find very profitable and useful. ~~[illegible]~~ - When not much older than you are, I remember with what delight I used to read some parts of that book - and really felt as if I could adopt the sentiments as my own - but was it not all a delusive hope.?

"Alas! I find an aching void
The world can never fill". -

Remember me respectfully to Mrs. W. - we all join in tow to you

I am thinking much about Frederic - remember him my dear child in your most serious moments. Edward had a letter from Whiting yesterday - last week thursday night, he went to bed well, but awoke the night in great pain, he however was ~~[illegible]~~ willing to awake his chum - and of course had nothing done till morning - he then had a physician, but he got no relief till afternoon. the person who attended him, thost he could not live thro' the day - but the Lord in mercy gave efficacy to the means and he had a comfortable night - and sabbath afternoon he attended public worship. - He thinks the disease was the cholera - but the physician call'd it the bilious cholic. -

I saw Marianne riding by this forenoon very moderately on the old horse. Theophil and Theodore have done their work at the mountain for the present.

Your Pa offered Elvira and Marian each 25 cents if they would pick up the chips in the yard next week. - M - has been very busy every leisure moment - - E - says she does not know as she cares much about getting the money - the more she has, the more carefully she ~~wants to keep~~ wants to keep it. perhaps she fears loving it too well. - After receiving this you will think it best to write a good long letter home - I have been quite circumstantial perhaps too much so - before I began, I thost I could not write at all - since you left us, I have

been more troubled with the old faint feeling at my stomach than for many months before I should dread another season of gloom; but it has been my endeavour to feel submission under any distress which might be called to endure in this life, if it be the rescrection of the just - [illegible] to the [illegible] of [illegible] mother