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**DESCRIPTION OF REPRODUCED ITEM:**

Elizabeth Whiting Phelps Huntington. ALS, Hadley, to My Dear Children, 1829  
Feb 18. In: Porter-Phelps-Huntington Family Papers (Box 12 Folder 2).

My dear children, Hadley Feb'y 18<sup>th</sup> 1829 - Wednesday evening.

By your letter, which we received yesterday, we were highly gratified to find that you are contented in your absence from home - and that you are both in health, as I suppose you were when you wrote, or you would have informed us - You must think we miss you very much after you left us - poor Bethia I suspect laid it to heart rather more than any of us and to quiet her feelings under the loss of her little bedfellows, I took her into my bed, the two following nights -

Our evening circle has been diminishing gradually and tonight your Pa Bethia and myself have the table and room to ourselves - you will wonder where Theophilus Theodore and Frederic are; - they with Whiting have gone to the store to eat oysters and spend the evening with Edward - You probably recollect that yesterday was the day for examinations - Bethia Theodore and Frederic and I went down in the afternoon - In the evening Whiting carried John Willard to Northampton that he might take the stage this morning - Bethia and I have been to Northampton this afternoon - with Whiting and Frederic - we called at Judge Lyman's, found Ann Jean making brackets for the society - she has ~~herself~~ earned about seven dollars -

We begin to look forward to the time of your return; I hope it will be so arranged, as to have you brought home next week by some of your brethren and your sister for I think a little trip of that kind would be pleasant

to them, and I know it would be gratifying to you, to return with them. I trust you are endeavouring to improve your advantages in the best manner; remember the importance of time, that when once gone it can never be recalled - and remember also, that an account must be rendered of the manner in which time has been spent, every hour should have its <sup>particular business</sup> ~~use~~ - and then we shall be more likely to know whether any of our precious time is lost.

Among your various employments my dear children, do not forget that you were made for eternity; and that all the occupations of <sup>this</sup> life should be so conducted, as to assist us in our preparation for another life beyond the grave - always bear in mind that God is the best as well as the greatest of beings, and that our best affections, and services are his due; worship him daily in secret - praise him for his mercies, seek of him the pardon of your sins, and his guidance in all your ways - thus you will learn to love those duties which bring you near to him - and thus you will find ~~that~~ indeed that wisdom's ways are pleasant, and all her paths peace.

Remember me with respect to Doct<sup>r</sup> W. and his wife - give my love to your uncles - and be assured of the affectionate remembrance of us all especially of your mother D. H. H.

Thursday Morn

If it is good fleighing, it is probable that Whiting & I shall start for Boston next Monday morning - of course you will not expect any of the family on the proposed visit to Vernon. If they should come however, you will know it. If they do not you will pursue the plan proposed of going to Greenfield on Saturday. I may not pass thro' Greenfield on Saturday, on my way to Shelburne; if I do not, I shall expect to find you there by 10 or 11 O'clock Monday morning -

Affectly yr. father D. Huntington

Parvella Feb 24 18  
1829

D. Huntington P.M.  
Free

Hadley M Mills  
Feb 19<sup>th</sup>

Miss Catherine C. Huntington  
to the care of Doct. C. Washburn  
Vernon  
Vermont