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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).

D. Huntington P.M.
Free

North Hadley

October 10th

Mr. Fred & D. Huntington

Warwick

Ms

To Warwick

Oct Valley Oct 9th 1839

My dear Frederic, Yours of the 6th and 7th we received this morning; It was good to hear of all you told us; and most cheering and refreshing, to be assured that you are supported and comforted by the same considerations with which we are also comforted. Blessed gospel of the Son of God! who can comprehend its worth?—

Thanks to the Father of our mercies, we are all able to walk about the house, and to walk out of doors a little, and to ride out in this delightful autumnal air, all excepting our dear Mary, who has at last been obliged to quit her labours of love, and care of the sick, and herself be the object of our solicitude. Last week on Tuesday, she gave up, and has been confined to her bed ever since. The fever has not been very high, but she has been under great nervous excitement, in consequence of her over exertion, and extreme anxiety for the sick. We kept her as quiet as possible. She has taken my bed, and both her and I endeavour to give her the best of nursing. — Doth Mr. Gray that her more comfortable this morning than yesterday. Your uncle's family are in a state of affliction. Caroline Jenkins, who was taken sick at the same time with Theodore, has finished her labours and sufferings, as we hope, and as your aunt said, had probably found Whiting and Catherine, in the great company of the redeemed.

She died yesterday about two o'clock. They sent for William to make a prayer with the family, and she expired while he was there. Marianne has been sick of a fever, more than a week, tho' the Doct. does not think her dangerous. On Friday I think it was, Sarah was attack'd also with fever, and more violently than Marianne. Your father & I rode over this morning to express our sympathy, and to see the remains of the beautiful and accomplished, the amiable and the pious. Amelia left, a fortnight since.

What I have written seems chiefly a recital of grievances. you will not I hope think that we are ungrateful of our blessings, sooner may our right hand forget her cunning and our tongue cleave to the roof of our mouth. Unite your prayers with ours dear Frederick, that these uncommon visitations of Divine Providence may increase our devotion to God, our love to our brethren of the human family, and thus our sorrow enter into preparation for last sickness and final change.

As Maria says she was delighted with your letter, and hopes soon to answer it. Your visit will be to us a high treat, if the Lord will. Yours with the sincerest love

J. W. Allen writes

Dear Frederick, your brother William would just say that he has preached at N-m the two Sundays past; & that he is to be absent from there the next two Sundays to come. Then, he is engaged to supply one Sabbath more - that is, the last in October, - out of compliment to his friends & relations, some of whom have not yet heard him. If you remain at Warwick next week instead of coming home, & defer your visit to the week following

that on which you proposed to come, it is possible that I shall take a trip to Warwick & Brattleboro' again Sunday after next; in which case, you shall be seasonably apprised.

Thursday morning The night past, has been a trying one, with poor Mary, & with us all. This morning presents a prospect, a little more cheering. Hope presents that she may be still spared to us. But why should we wish it? At the longest, the period will be short, before we must experience the alternative, either of leaving or being left, so far as the present life is concerned. The great scene of action is within the veil. Then let us cast anchor in dear Jesus. The reunion of virtuous friends, in brighter world to me is sure, beyond a doubt. I have long since resigned my dear earthly friends, one & all, into the hands, of an all-wise & most merciful disposer of all events, for time & eternity, & most perfect government. It is well I speak of poor Mary. So we speak. Notwithstanding I use the term, I do not mean, what it sometimes imports. I use it with regard to present suffering. She is rich - rich in faith, rich in hope, ^{rich in good works.} She has the fortitude & composure of a martyr. Her prevailing desire is to depart. She is evidently disappointed, that one of her paroxysms the last night did not prove the final one: tho' she is still willing to go thro' what her friends think best for her restoration. Her mind is clear as light. Believing in G. & in X, she is not troubled come what may. Her prayers discover deep experience in faith & hope & trust. But the life of our dear Mary. Her life! O how pure & excellent! This is what gives me a lively hope concerning her. My paper is gone. We shall see you notice of your 2 interesting