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DESCRIPTION OF REPRODUCED ITEM:

Elizabeth Huntington. ALS to My dear Whiting, 1829 Nov 26. In: Porter-Phelps-Huntington Family Papers, box 12, folder 11.

D. Huntington Esq.

Hadley Mills
Nov. 28th

Mr. J. Whiting
Huntington
Cambridge
Mass

Mother's letter of
Nov. 26. 1829

Hadley Nov. 25th 1829 -
My dear Whiting, Having just completed our
last meal for this day - that is, for thanksgiving
day, it being near eight o'clock - I can sit down
quite at leisure and have a little chat with
you - you remember what a scene of
woking is acted over here about this time -
and can easily imagine what a bustle
we ^{have} had, to prepare not only for this annual
festival, but for the accommodation of our
Dear Elizabeth and her little family - we had
made very arrangements, the bed put into the
north kitchen - wood laid in the fire place -
and were four little apple puddings baked in
little tin hearts for the children - and we were
very moment expecting to hear them driving
into the yard, (this was Tuesday evening)
when your Pa came home from the store
with a letter from Elizabeth informing us
that she would not come - the disappoint-
ment was more painful to me, by a great
deal, than it was before - but it is over -
"some heavy tears we dropt, but wiped them
soon" - we have reason to be thankful that
their lives are spared - we might have heard
of their sickness or death - Mr. Fisher had
been detained so long by business - that he
found it necessary to go as speedily as possi-
ble - and the season ^{had} so far advanced
that they feared the little ones might suffer
on the journey - they hope to be here next

summer, and be at Cambridge at commencement.
So we had to content ourselves with Charles and
Helen, who came over about four o'clock yesterday
day, and returned this morning after breakfast.
We wished you here, and wondered how you
felt, it being the first Thanksgiving you were
safely away from home. - Mary came
home last Thursday with Theodore who went
to carry Mrs. Horner to Westhampton to
spend the winter with her aunt Hale. - Hys-
-kiah has been in the store with Edward three
or four weeks; the business there has increased
very much since Edward came from New York
Who knows but the Lord will give success - that
your education may be completed - and that
you may be prepared to preach the unsearch-
able riches of Christ - it is a blessed work - &
I hope your heart will be more and more
impressed with a sense of its importance - the glory
of God should be the first object with us all, and
in order to know God do his will, we must
must wait upon him in secret - prayer is
as necessary to the soul as food to the body
and we have abundant encouragement to heed
our duty by the examples we find in
the bible as well as what our Saviour has him-
self told us - but why do I enlarge - I trust
you know and prize the privilege - do
to your being a preacher, however, I would
not have you think I am anxious about
it - I would choose to have the path of
duty plainly marked out - but to be religious

is the duty of every one, and to fear God and
work righteousness is in the power of every one.
Did I say the duty of every one - ? It is the un-
-searchable privilege of all who have the gospel
in their hands - and woe to those who are
indifferent when eternal happiness is at stake.

You know we want to look forward to some-
-thing pleasant - now we are anticipating your
visit - I hope we shall not be disappointed as
we were with regard to Elizabeth's coming -
The rumour with regard to William, I think must
be false - as our last letter from him was dated
Mr. Allister's town Nov. 5th. he had taken a school
there for three months - and wished us all to
write to him - Bethia is engaged in this
very business now - - However as it is
after nine, and I have made you a long
visit and shattered away without mercy
you will be very glad to see the name
of your affectionate mother Elizabeth -

A copy of course, my dear Whiting, & whatever
else you think necessary for your comfort or credit.
Edw. encloses you a \$5 bill with his love. We are
greatly indebted to him for his readiness to help. He
is hard at work for us & has gathered around him an
immense custom, for a little country merchant
in a town where there four or five others. If you receive
no word to the contrary make your arrangements to
come home in the stage. If you want more cash
before you come home mention it immediately to your
father