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DESCRIPTION OF REPRODUCED ITEM:

Elizabeth Huntington. ALS (Elm Valley), to Edward, 1840 July 1. In:
Porter-Phelps-Huntington Family Papers, box 12, folder 4).

Elm Valley July 1st 1840 -

My Dear Edward, This is the third time I have prepared myself to write to you, and something has occurred to prevent my accomplishing the object. I have been trying to account for your silence; we have heard nothing since Mr. Belden came back. Possibly you intend to come home on the 4th - and possibly you mean to wait till Foderie's comes.

We have had a still time the last fortnight, only those of us to sit down at our meals, unless we have an occasional visitor. Last week on Tuesday Mr. Dwight dined with us, and on ~~Wednesday~~ ~~Thursday~~ ~~Friday~~ ~~Saturday~~ ~~Sunday~~ Mr. Hitchcock; and Friday aunt Dickinson.

Bothina, you know probably, is keeping house for Charles, while Helen is gone to Boston - and although she does not make herself very noisy, when here, yet her absence seems to cast a shade over our domestic hemisphere. In time past we had Mary left us, when she was gone. But now her place is empty; we do not hear her pleasant remarks, nor listen to ^{her} sweet voice in the hymn of praise. We do not receive the endearing attentions which she was ever ready to bestow upon her friends. But we cannot from this infer that she is not happy - dearly as she loved us all, we know that there are prepared for the humble followers of Jesus enjoyments which we here in this state of ignorance, suffering and darkness, cannot even conceive of. Instead therefore of indulging gloomy & sorrowful thoughts, it becomes us to thank God, who has given us the cheering hope of a blessed meeting with the Deceased, and the delightful assurance that whosoever liveth and believeth in Jesus, shall never die.

Our experience of the shortness and uncertainty of life, is calculated to lead our thoughts to a frequent contemplation of death and the invisible world. Indeed it is only by becoming familiar with these subjects, that we can be prepared for a suitable enjoyment and improvement of the bounties, which our heavenly Father is with our unsparring kindness pouring down upon us.

July comes in charmingly - we have had three or four days of very warm weather, but today the air is really reviving. Theodore is quite engaged about haying - The front yard shebang and piece above the garden, with the hollow back of the house is all in, and the river bank is begun.

June, the most beautiful of all the months, has passed away, I think the scenery this year has surpassed what I have ever before witnessed - but I am apt to think so every year.

The silk-worms are growing very fast, and furnish employment for several hands, your father has been quite busy about them; he and Theodore take care of them, with some help from Frank and Eunice. You have heard I believe of Theophilus' illness. He has got quite well, Eliza thinks his stomach is in a better state than it was before he was sick; Theodore too seems to be very well. Your father has become quite relieved of the dizziness which troubled him so long - indeed his health appears to be very good - but his eyesight is failing. So you see we have much to be thankful for - when will our gratitude

and obedience be in any measure proportionate?
We had a letter two or three weeks ago from William,
He and Lucy were on a journey up the river.
At the same time we received William's letter, Theophilus had
Shir had one from Mrs. Fisher, and Charles and Helen one from
Lizzie. Frederic does not write very often - we had a Monday
on the death of Doct. Tuckerman in the Register, which he sent
the paper to T. and S. with the initials of his name written
at the end of the piece. Do write or come soon and see us.
With an abating affection,
your mother Elizabeth

D. Huntington Jr. M.
Three
North Haverly
July 23
Mr. Edmund J. Huntington
Cobetsville
Shirong's
Ms