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DESCRIPTION OF REPRODUCED ITEM:

Elizabeth Whiting Phelps Huntington. ALS, Elm Valley, to Edward, 1840 Oct 19
In: Porter-Phelps-Huntington Family Papers (Box 12 Folder 4).

D. Huntington D. M.

care

North Hadley

October 20th

Mr. Edw. J. Huntington

Cabotville

Ms

Elm Valley Oct. 19th 1840 -
Monday afternoon -

Dear Edward,

Your letter came in due season, and its contents have furnished matter for us all to reflect upon. As you spoke of writing up soon, I am half disposed to postpone writing; but on the whole, thinking that you are rather lonely, I believe I shall step in and see you a few minutes. But as to this again I am uncertain. Who can say where you are? You intimate some intention of leaving the office. If you have ^{left} I am sure I cannot track you to another resting place. Resting place indeed! - Why do we, at rest in this troubled sea whose waters cast up mire and dirt? The prophet spoke wisely when he said, "arise and depart, this is not your rest!" And our blessed Saviour frankly told his disciples, that in this world they should have tribulation. He also said, and as blessed assurance it is, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you!" How often do we find this Peace and rest, soothing our hearts, after having learned the unsatisfying nature of all earthly things. I am very happy to find that your faith and trust in the promises of God remain unshaken. If he withhold, from us those temporal blessings which we might think desirable, let us hope that he will bestow upon us those spiritual gifts, which will be to us durable riches and righteous ness.

We all attended divine worship at Northampton yesterday, your father and all. Mr. Dwight preached all day from Matt. 6th 25th Consider the lilies. His object was to excite the attention of his hearers, to the wonderful works of God, as exhibited

in every thing which we see. The spoke of this magnificent temple, which had been so beautifully fitted up for our temporary residence, whose arch over our head in the starry heavens, and whose multiplied decorations, all around us, seem like the smile of the great Creator. He insisted on it as a duty, that all should reserve time from their usual employments, and spend a little ~~every~~ every day to contemplate God in his works, and thus enlarge and refine and elevate their affections, to a participation of his own pure and blessed image. - Your father was quite delighted.

We received a letter from Frederic last Saturday evening directed to Bethia; one also came from Lizzie Fisher, for Frederic, - unscaled - she says her mother had been sick with something like the Fever and Ague; but was much better indeed she called herself well. The letter was written the last of August. Frederic seems to entertain the same opinion with respect to the spiritualists or Transcendentalists that we do. - He observed the 14th by rambling over Mount Auburn; and by refreshing his mind with the memory of ^{our dear Mary's} her lovely qualities, he almost felt as if he had enjoyed a real interview with her. Bethia and I took the same occasion to make a little offering at the place where she sleeps. -

I am quite desirous to know what are your plans. Probably you may retain your present station until next spring. If so you can be looking about for something more favourable. Mr. Will, I think

is your friend. I am sure you have never done any thing to forfeit his confidence; however you may have displeas'd his agent. - "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousnes sake."

The male members of our family are very busy in husking at present. - Theophilus I believe has done, and is scraping his broom corn. Eliza is rather feeble, she spent three or four days with Helen last week, but gained nothing in strength. I hope she will recruit soon.

The butter we sent last week to Boston brought only seventeen cents. poor encouragement for farmers.

I think we shall hear from you ere you this week.

As we returned from church yesterday thro' Hatfield we had a fine view of the many retained forest trees on Mount Warner. Their fading glories will soon leave us. So it is with all earthly enjoyments - while we gaze upon them they vanish - Not so with the immortal spirit. For he who ^{is} "the Life", hath said, because I live ye shall live also. If we will live with him hereafter, we must live like him here.

With the most earnest desires for
your highest ~~prosperity~~ happiness
I am your affectionate mother

Bethia has an ague in her face. the pain has happily ceased in a swelling -

Elizabeth

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