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DESCRIPTION OF REPRODUCED ITEM:

Elizabeth Huntington. ALS (Elm Valley), to Frederic, 1844 May 5. In: Porter-Phelps-Huntington Family Papers, box 12, folder 9).

Rev. Frederic D. Huntington

Boston

Rev. N. Ellis.

Northampton May 5th 1844
Sabbath evening

Dear Frederic,

I came here yesterday, with your father, who was going to Deerfield to preach for Mr. Blodget. You know perhaps that when he was ordained, his health was not firm; he has been more unwell of late, and is advised to suspend his labours, ^{to your father's service,} for a time. ^{was a deed of charity.}

We found Theodore at Palmer, on our way from Boston, and reached home about four o'clock - Eliza and Walter were there to welcome us - indeed it was quite a time of rejoicing.

My thoughts of you and Hannah, have been frequent since we left you; it would grieve me to find that any unpleasant consequences had followed our long visit - I hope soon to learn that Hannah sleeps soundly thro' the night, without distressing dreams.

Today the Christian feast has been celebrated, and your brother and their wives came over. Mr. Ellis gave us an excellent sermon in the morning - this afternoon the ordinance of the supper constituted the service. He is truly engaged in his work; may he find the Spirit of God working with him, and raising to spiritual life, those who are dead in trespasses and sins. Charles has nearly recovered from his illness -

tho' he has still a little soreness low in his throat. he is very thin - I wish he would take a journey. Bethia seems to be in good health and the children. Let us be thankful.

I am writing by the side of Mrs. Fisher, who is Whisin writing - not to you but to her husband. she had a letter from him last week, which informed her that he had bought the house, and was to take possession of it the middle of May. He proposed that Lizzie should go on to Orange with him and commence housekeeping the last of May with the young children - and Mrs. Fisher stay and get her bath done and ~~follow~~ on when she should be ready - but there is nothing decided about it. I feel sorry to have them go; I had hoped something would transpire which might make it expedient for them to remain near us.

Bethia has lately had a letter from William written Feb. 25th sent by Doct. Haskel, and Charles has also had one - he speaks of coming back to New England as a thing to be desired if he could dispose of his farm - who knows but we may yet meet again in these mortal shoes.

Monday morning - Mrs. Fisher wishes me to say that she has not yet determined to go to Boston. if she does, she hopes to give you as little trouble as possible. she would be glad to see you and your wife before she leaves the circle of her family friends. You know what a warm heart she has, and

how dearly she loves her brothers and sisters - we regret exceedingly that we must part with her.

To your friends with whom we became acquainted you will remember us with the kindest and most grateful regard - especially Mr. Sargent's family - I hope by Mr. Ellis to learn something of "your affairs and how you do" - and how your people do.

The best possible information will be that the truth is believed and loved and practised.

That the spirit of Jesus is present with you always. Take care of your health and of Hannah's - and may our Heavenly Father have you ever in his merciful keeping.

Most truly and ever your
affectionate mother Elizabeth