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**DESCRIPTION OF REPRODUCED ITEM:**

Elizabeth Huntington. ALS (Elm Valley), to Edward, 1841 Jul 16. In: Porter-Phelps-Huntington Family Papers, box 12, folder 5).

Elm Valley July 15<sup>th</sup> 1841 -

Dear Edward,

On reading the date of this, you will doubtless call to mind the event which in our recollection is connected with it. The return of a birth-day of any member of our family, hardly ever fails to bring to my recollection our dear Whiting, and I welcome any occurrence, which carries my thoughts upward, to mingle with the pure in heart who see God. Probably the reason why these seasons remind me of Whiting, is the scrupulous attention which he himself showed on these occasions. Some poetical effusion was often written, and we cannot doubt that his prayers were fervent & constant.

We had the pleasure of being present on Wednesday, at the baptism of Charles's infant. your father performed the service by particular request. Elizabeth Botwin and myself accompanied him, Theodore was detained at home by work and working men. Theophilus and his wife also went. Mr. Edward Clarke and his family were there, Miss Stanton and Miss Blake from Boston and Mrs. Pierce from Cambridge, after the baptism a hymn was sung and Mrs. Clarke accompanied it with the Piano. The occasion was peculiarly interesting to Mrs. and Mrs. Clarke as the child was named for them; Edward Stanton.

We are expecting Frederic tomorrow. Your father goes to

Barnardston to preach on the sabbath.

This has been a week of great business. The meadow has been mown since Monday morning, and the hay is nearly all in the barn. Theodore was quite unwell last week, but is better, and with the help of two men, and the blessing of our heavenly Father has done wonders. Theophilus went last Saturday to Abington Eastford with Mrs. Lyon, left home about nine in the morning, and reached there about nine at night. went over to Abington Sabbath morning. He returned Monday about three o'clock. The people of Gladly are now formally divided, and the ministers have been convened this week, to organize the new church. It is said they are to have Mr. Woodbridge for their pastor, - or rather there is talk of it.

I think I must expect you to give us a look next week in your way to the ordination. Your father will go without doubt. Theodore intends to take his wife - and I suppose Theophilus will take his; Frederic I think will enjoy the occasion, and Robert also. - As for me, I feel more like staying where I am, than like turning off upon a new track. These two or three warm days we have had, make me feel heavy and indolent. - I hope it is not sinful to desire that we may <sup>at length</sup> be admitted to that state where we may be ever active without weariness or imperfection, and ever exercising those those affections which will be well-pleasing to Him who searcheth the heart.

We are surrounded here with every thing we can desire of a temporal nature. It seems as if the eye would not be satisfied with seeing the works of the Creator, nor the ear satisfied <sup>hearing</sup> with the melodies of our various feathered friends. - The earth pours out to us her multiplied productions, and what do we want more? - One thing we want, more of the purifying influence

of the Divine Spirit, to transform us into the Image of our  
Lord and Master...

You will be glad I am sure to hear me have the  
rest of the sheet - when I tell you that I have exhausted my  
stock of news, and that as to sentiment there is not a particle  
of it within my reach. - But stop, there is another item of  
intelligence; Bothas and Elizabeth are just fixing off, to join a  
small party at Deacon Dickinson's, whither Theodore has  
not strength, or leisure, or courage, or a disposition  
to accompany them. He has an unconquerable aversion  
to parties - offers very kindly to carry them down, but  
utterly refuses to join the company. - What do you  
think of it? - With the truest motherly affection  
believe me as ever yours  
S. W. D. Huntington

The sofa is six feet seven inches  
in length.

D. Huntington P.M.

Free

North Hadley  
July 19<sup>th</sup>

For the Reverend William Huntington  
Hillsboro  
Illinois