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DESCRIPTION OF REPRODUCED ITEM:

Elizabeth Huntington. ALS to Frederic Dan Huntington. In: Porter-Phelps-Huntington Family Papers (box 12, folder 8).

D. Huntington P.M.

Bro

North Hadley

March 21

Mr. Frederic D. Huntington

Cambridge

Elm Valley March 18th 1840-

Dear Frederic,

You see my visit to N. is finished, and I am again at this quiet comfortable home, having been very much strengthened and gratified by the state of rest, and the change of air, and also the kind attentions of your mother and sister.

Thophilus took me over by the Horse boat this morning after you left us. When we arrived at Charles' I found, instead of a cordial welcome as I anticipated from Helen, that she had gone with Mills to dine with Mrs. Edward Clark and that Charles was going also. I can hardly describe the foolish feeling which came over me. I was almost ready to weep at finding myself obliged to push my self into a circle which I had no desire to join, and this I must do, or oblige Helen to return on my account. So I summoned all my resolution, and self-denial, and bringing what little strength I had also, into use I walked up with Charles. I should have told you that as soon as Mr. Clark knew of my being at Charles' he came down, and insisted on sending his carriage for me, but this I utterly refused to have done. Our dinner was very good of course two or three fashionable dishes, and a cup of coffee to finish off with. Charles left immediately after dinner, and Helen Mills and I, with Mr. Clark to attend us returned about four o'clock. So much for the beginning of my visit. The remainder was very quiet. Several of Helen's friends called on her, some I saw and some I did not, according to circumstances. Mr. Moore spent half an hour there, him I saw. Mrs. Clarke and Gertrude called after dinner I saw them. Saturday Mrs. Lyman and Susan called, having heard

that I was in town. I tried to remember my lesson. Last
Wednesday I returned to the vicinity, but had not much freedom
of speech; Susan had gone to walk, but came in ^{blooming and bright as ever} before I left.
rather a dry time. By the way Helen thinks Susan by and by
would make an excellent wife for Mr. Dwight, and the
society would all be pleased with her for their Madam.
Last week Mrs. Lewis Strong and her daughter Elisabeth
thither called to see Helen - then I did not see, as I had
never been introduced to them; but as I had heard so much
of the young lady I had some curiosity to see her. It is said
she is to be married soon. Last Tuesday we were again
invited to spend the day and evening at Mr. Clark's, and
accordingly went. They are very kind and attentive
to Charles' family - they were very hospitable to me,
and I felt gratified in becoming acquainted with them.
On the last sabbath Bethia and Theodore went over
to attend worship. I returned with them and ^{we} brot
Fanny to stay a few days; she asked to day when uncle
Arden's was coming home? I told her next July - she
seem'd disappointed and said she thought you were
coming soon.

Mr. Moore preach'd all day upon faith; in the
morning from these words, Now faith is the substance
&c. in the afternoon, faith without works is dead.
Friday evening - As this seems to be a kind of newspaper, I will
begin where I left off. - Theodore went to Cabotville on
Monday. found Edward well, and much engaged in trying
to qualify himself, by a more thorough acquaintance
with his business, for a more important, and lucrative
station. - He spoke of coming up before long.

Caroline Phelps has some hope of taking a school in
Spring field. Brother has gone to Philadelphia to look for
business. Theophilus and Eliza go on quiet and comfortably;
he hardly finds employment enough to satisfy him. ^{just now.} We were
yesterday a little fearful that Theodore would be laid up
with a fever, but a good box of Flint's Pills, seem'd to be
bless'd as the means of carrying off the symptoms, and
he is quite well today.
About a fortnight ago, a letter came from Mrs. Fisher
address'd to Parents, Brothers, and Sisters, one and all. In
speaking of our dear Eliza, she dwells with much
feeling upon the peculiarly interesting traits of her
character. They had received only the letter dat'd August.
My thoughts are often with you. I think of your
sickness last summer; of the mercy of God to us all
in your restoration to health; of your advantages
for acquiring knowledge; of the dedication which
I trust you have made of yourself to God, to serve
him in the gospel of his Son; and while I rejoice in
all these, it is with trembling - there is no security but
in the whole armour of God. There are snares from
without, and an evil heart of unbelief within - inclining
us to depart from our heavenly Father, and stand in our
own strength. But notwithstanding all that is said of
the strength and purity of human power; I do feel that
without constant aid from the Divine Spirit the
benefiter, our strength is weakness. This aid can only
be obtained by prayer. The morning and evening sacrifice
is full as important for us, as it was for the Jews.
but this is not all. The apostle speaks of being instant
in prayer and praying always, and our bless'd Saviour's
example teaches us the same lesson. That your my
Dear son may abound in this good work more and more

is the most sincere and earnest desire of your affectionate mother
Elizbeth