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**DESCRIPTION OF REPRODUCED ITEM:**

Elizabeth Huntington. ALS (Elm Valley), to Edward, 1841 Mar 25. In: Porter-Phelps-Huntington Family Papers, box 12, folder 5).

Elm Valley - March 25<sup>th</sup> 1841

Dear Edward,

We have certainly been blameably remiss, with regard to complying with your wishes when you left us, as to writing to you soon. The request was not made to me, and even if it had been, my situation was not the most favourable for this employment; for in addition to the usual obstructions and hindrances, I have of late felt an excessive indifference, or perhaps I may call it a dislike, to every thing; first to myself, as most intimately acquainted with my own disagreeable qualities and faults, and also generally to the objects about me. But lest you should remain ignorant of Mr. Fisher's arrival even until he leaves us, I proceed to say to you, that he comes the day after you left - that is Monday evening. He has spent the time with us, excepting two or three days which he passed in Northampton last week. I believe his concerns with Mr. Davis of Liverpool brought him over the water. He is waiting for letters from his agent there - and if he does not go there in person will perhaps leave his business in Charles's hands. He has walked to Northampton this morning and thinks of staying till tomorrow night. He has a curious way of blinding people as to his intentions - soon after he came, he spoke of buying a place and bringing his family back in the course of the summer; not long after he said he

might keep them there a year or two longer.

Our friends on the other side of the house set up for themselves last week on Wednesday, just four weeks from the Day of their marriage, <sup>the next day</sup> and ~~it~~ being ~~also~~ Theodor's birth Day, his wife requested T. Q. and his wife, with your father and mother, and sister, including Mr. Fisher also, to take tea with them in their new room. I suppose it might last for a hour warming - the room was certainly very warm. The pleasure would have been greatly augmented, if you and Frederic could have been with us. We as yet, have hardly realized the full extent of our luckiness - Mr. F. with his various subjects of information, has afforded much entertainment, especially to your father; they have enjoyed many hours in this way, and when weary with talking, have sunk insensibly each into a quiet slumber, from which when awaking, they could easily resume the thread of their discourses.

The spirit of contention, and persecution, which began to be exhibited against a few heretics many years ago, seems to be operating powerfully in the midst of this once peaceable people. The inhabitants of the west street have formally separated themselves from the regular society, and intend to build a church for themselves. In the mean time they expect to hold worship, in the Academy Hall. By this measure they forfeit the fund and the vessels for the sacramental table. - There needed in every age ~~and~~ every individual is the injunction - "Be

I think Mr. F. will not have us - tell me Day, I think says he shall write me

that ye fall not out by the way".

If there had been any prospect of a union, they would gladly have postponed this decisive step. They now hope to enjoy peace at least on the sabbath. I believe the society at the Upper Mills, have hired Mr. Beman for another year. Your uncle Phelps returned from Boston the forepart of last week in pretty good spirits for him, but as the dreary season approaches, things appear under a gloomy aspect. People who suffer under a oppression of this kind, seldom receive much sympathy; but I have known and felt it too deeply, not to commiserate their condition. I indulge a hope too, that He who, "as a Father pitieeth his children, pitieeth those who fear him" will at some time give the "garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness." When this earthly tabernacle falls, and the spirit rises unfiled, pardoned and purified, to the light and purity of heaven, the burdens and doubts and tears of the way, will no more be remembered but God himself shall wipe all tears from all eyes, and his favour and presence will be the joy of every heart.

Do not send me a long lecture upon being disgusted with the world. It is enough for you and others of your age to look with eagerness to worldly circumstances for enjoyment - but for me - just about to close all connection with sensible objects, quite different objects be the subject of my contemplations. - Tho' I thus write, you will not doubt of my earnest desires for your success in every laudable undertaking. indeed I shall be truly gratified to hear that your plans are prosperous. As ever most

truly your affectionate mother  
Elizabeth

I think Mr. A will not have us - till our day, but he did not tell when - will you not come and see him? - I think says he shall write soon

D. Huntington Hill

Green

North Hadley, N

March 24

Mr. Edw. D.

J. Huntington

Cabotville

Springfield

Mr

