

1842

Mr. Frederic D. Huntington

Boston

Early July 1842?

Northampton - Sabbath evening - 8 o'clock -

My Dear Frederic,

You see I am not at the Old home, but seated at the table with Helen. who is writing to Mrs. P. Charles has very kindly invited your father sister and myself to come and stay here while he is gone; Bethia is unwilling to leave so great a burden upon Elizabeth, and declines accepting the offer; but thinks it will be for my health to try a change of air and occupation. - And so here I am, taking upon myself the whole concern of visiting, for it is very uncertain whether your father will spend more time here, than just to dine with Mr. Clarke, who invited him to do so, several days ago. I hope too that Mrs. Lyon and Bethia will make us a visit while I stay, which will probably be till the next Sabbath.

We have had very good instruction today from the pulpit. In the morning Mr. Smith preached from these words of the thirty ninth Psalm. Lord make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is, that I may know how frail I am. A funeral sermon occasioned by the sudden death of Mr. Brewer. Rather a trying time for an inexperienced minister; but he did excellently well; indeed we have always liked him, he is so serious, earnest, and entirely unaffected. In the afternoon Mr. Coolidge gave us a sermon from these words, in the eleventh chapter of Luke. When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man. &c. three verses. It was a very solemn rousing performance. Shewing the danger

of relying upon feeling or excitement, instead of fixed principles.

Bethia received a letter last evening from Mrs. Fisher, dated June 27th. They ~~have~~ given up their intention of visiting England, and were expecting to sail from Havre to New York. The precise time was not fixed, when it should be, they would write again and give us information. Mrs. Fisher says, you don't know how I dread the voyage. - I too dread it for them - may the great Ruler of earth and sea, keep them in the hollow of his hand, and permit us to meet in safety.

I brought over a note from Theophilus - giving some directions I suppose about Eliza's bundle - the note I shall send, but the bundle came by Mr. Cook's, and was carried over when your brother and sister returned today. - Your father went to Lwerit this morning, he prepared a sermon last week from these words, "then they that feared the Lord spoke often one to another and the Lord hearkened and heard, and a book of remembrance was written for them that feared the Lord and that trust upon his name."

You are now probably about giving an answer to the call you have received. You seem to be hurried along into your parochial labours. I trust you will reserve sufficient time for rest and relaxation.

You are doubtless forming plans for usefulness among your people - as your dear departed brother did - may a noble portion of his spirit rest upon you - rather may the spirit of Jesus fill your heart and govern all your

actions. I hope you will be able to come up next week and spend a few days with us, and also be here on the sabbath. - It would seem as if our friends from France might be here then. If you do not come, write by Charles and tell us all about your affairs. - Mr. Clapp was at meeting today - he told me he had written to you. - It is time to close, both because it grows late, and because there is nothing interesting to communicate with the most earnest desires for your welfare - both temporal and spiritual believe me as ever most affectionately your mother Elizabeth -

When you come bring all your
woollen socks with you - for and good -