



AMHERST COLLEGE LIBRARY, ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL
COLLECTIONS

PORTER-PHELPS-HUNTINGTON FOUNDATION, INC.

This reproduction of an item in the Amherst College Library is not to be reproduced or published, in whole or in part, nor sold or given away, without written agreement of the Porter-Phelps-Huntington Foundation.

Not for commercial use without paid prior permission from the Porter-Phelps-Huntington Foundation. For inquiries, contact Amherst College Archives and Special Collections, archives@amherst.edu

DESCRIPTION OF REPRODUCED ITEM:

Elizabeth Huntington. ALS (Elm Valley), to My dear Frederic, 1845 Sep 3. In: Porter-Phelps-Huntington Family Papers, box 12, folder 10).

Rev. F. D. Huntington

Roxbury

at the junction

to the care of

Mr. Arthur Phelps

Elm Valley Sept. 3^d 1845-

My dear Frederic,

Our friend Amelia is about leaving us
and I would not neglect to say a few things to you by
so good a conveyance - and also send your over shoes
which were found some time after you left, in the
kitchen shoe closet -

You have probably heard of Charley's distressing fever,
and of his convalescence. Susan Phelps too has been sick
about three weeks with the typhus fever, but in its mildest
form; she too is better. Charley was delirious, about two weeks
some of the time almost frantic - for more than a week we
were expecting ^{daily} to hear that he was gone. May the blessed Spirit
of God accompany this trial with those influences which shall
enable him to be the Lord's wholly and forever.

Your father continues his labours at the mountain - last
Wednesday was a great day with us - he had invited about
thirty hands to assist in burning over the piece of land he has
been clearing - and I had prepared a great quantity of what we

call harvest cakes to treat them with after it was done, (by the way I wish I could send you a bag of it) but sad to relate, the atmosphere was damp - and there ^{was} some green brush standing, and the fire ^{and a violent shower coming on just then} would not burn - they all disheartened without any refreshment excepting ~~excepting~~ some molasses and water, and your father's thanks - And what do you suppose would be done with these dozen great loaves of cake? why your ^{father} went round next morning and distributed it among those who had tried hard to help him - he is now employed in clearing away the brush more thoroughly than after it has become quite dry - it may be properly burned -

William preached last sabbath at Leverett, and bro't his wife and children with him who are spending the week with Shophilus and Eliza - Mrs. Lyon has returned to Abington, but they have two pretty good girls to help them.

I think we know less about you than when you lived in Boston - your garden must not occupy so much time that you will have none to spare for writing letters - but yet it must be expected that going ^{home to your parish and from your} so often from your parish to your home must take considerable time; and I hope you will not be obliged in any degree to diminish your attention and services among your people - For their unexampled kindness to you, you can hardly do too much for them - and your doubtless feel this without being reminded of it -

Thosden has been writing a piece ~~for~~ for you, which he hesitates about sending - perhaps it will go by Amelia -

I think about you and the dear child and his mother a great deal - he must enjoy his present situation very much,

having her friends as near as nearer than they were in Boston. I love dear little George very much and for that very reason, I must enjoin it upon both father and mother to establish your authority soon, if you wish to do it without difficulty. I have witnessed of late a great deficiency in this respect - it's too much the fashion now for children to govern their parents - and this they will do if their parents do not govern them. Swiftness is not necessary nor desirable, but a parent must command, and the child must be made to obey - by mild means if possible, but certainly by some means - you may think I have taken up a new subject, and one upon which I am poorly qualified to give an opinion, or advice. From what I saw of your dear child - I think he may be very easily made obedient and dutiful.

Friday morning - I was obliged to break off suddenly without closing - and as Amelia put off her journey till today, I also deferred writing. For two or three weeks I have been troubled with neuralgia in my side and back, but have been laid by only two days - and by the blessing of that ever-present and ever helpful Friend who has stood by me all my life, long as it has been, I am again well - and in the enjoyment of that blessed hope, which to those who are reaching the verge of this life is so important and so full of comfort - your work my dear children is great full of interest and attended with some difficulty and many trials - but out of them all the Lord can deliver you, and he will, if as his obedient children you serve him in singleness of heart - We receive often the tokens of your remembrance for which I feel grateful - I like much to ~~read~~ ^{hear} the Christian Herald - With a heart full of love to you and yours most truly as ever your mother Elizabeth