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DESCRIPTION OF REPRODUCED ITEM:

Elizabeth Huntington. ALS (Elm Valley), to My dear Frederic, 1846 Nov 10. In: Porter-Phelps-Huntington Family Papers, box 12, folder 10).

Saturday evening. The magazine came ten days ago - a good number full of good things. I like very much the piece written by Adeline Brown I suppose. 'The summer ended' she seems to have a mind stored with excellent thoughts and has power to express them. Mary Williams' Flowers in the Sanctuary are beautiful and fragrant. It would be very agreeable to ^{know} the author of some other pieces. Two weeks ago last Thursday Theodore and his wife left us to visit William - stayed the first night at Deerfield the second with Mr. Sabin at Templeton - returned the next week Wednesday and braced with them Mr. Edwards who had been spending a few weeks at Ashby.

I have been sitting very still at different times with in the last two or three weeks, to be scrutinised very critically by Eliza Jenkins - she has almost finished a drawing which resembles a human face and gives evidence of a good degree of taste and skill in the art. but whether it resembles the original is a serious question - indeed she is obliged to refer so much to anatomy in the matter, that it could hardly be expected there would be a very exact resemblance. Your father is more like him, but perhaps I have done wrong to say any thing on the subject as they are neither of them finished. Perhaps I cannot give you a more correct idea of my present condition than by describing to you my ~~last~~ ^{last} course, ~~there~~ ^{there} one day and I am sure you will help me to praise and exalt that mercy which has been so marvellously displayed in my behalf.

I am able to rise and be at the breakfast table a little this even with your father and sister. After this I employ

Eliza has begun to take sketches of her mother Charlotte and Susan - and Theophilus - and Mr. Ellis wants to have her take his wife - Bothies received a letter from Mr. Fisher a week or two since, informing us of her safe arrival at home and of the improved state of health and spirits.

myself about some light work which I can do while sitting, as I have not yet recovered the power of walking with ease. before dinner I rest myself perhaps an hour in the sofa. in the afternoon, go thro' with much ^{the same} exercise - with perhaps resting rather more in a reclining posture. as I generally am troubled with more pain in the afternoon, I consider it a great privilege that I can take my food at the table, and after tea is commonly my most comfortable time. We usually have our family worship between eight and nine and as we have revived the old practice of singing a hymn these seasons are very precious. After this our dear faithful Bothies performs her duty upon this emaciated frame, and I retire to comfortable rest thro' the night, which, under the watchful eye of our Almighty Preserver, I generally am permitted to enjoy.

On the whole, I think my complaints are yielding, tho' gradually that the change is almost imperceptible. Doct. Thompson told me last week, that he thought I might have quite a comfortable winter. One prayer I should offer above any other, that I may be forgiven, made holy, a child of God and submissive to his will in life or death.

Two or three weeks ago, we invited Mr. Ellis to preach an evening lecture, he brought over Mr. Christopher Clarke and they drank tea with us which afforded us a very pleasant interview. In the evening we had no assembly but our neighbours, and our meeting was in our little back parlour. Mr. Ellis' subject was the inefficiency of Christians. - "The good that I would, I do not."

You say nothing of Hannah's sick sister, I hope she is better, with kind remembrances from us all to dear Hannah and dear George, and all our good friends, be assured I am still your most loving and affectionate mother Eliza.