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DESCRIPTION OF REPRODUCED ITEM:

Elizabeth Huntington. ALS (Elm Valley), to Edward, 1842 Dec 19. In: Porter-Phelps-Huntington Family Papers, box 12, folder 5).

Elm Valley - Dec. 19th 1842 - Monday

Dear Edward,

I have been for an hour or two, debating the question in my own mind, whether I had better write you a few lines by Theodore, or not. I have been strongly inclined to do it, for ever since I made you my long visit, I have been wishing to tell you how much I enjoyed it, and how many pleasing thoughts I have had since, in recollecting it. But there are on the other hand some considerations, which make it rather hazardous to attempt writing. It seems to be a stormy time with the correspondences of our family - hardly a letter passes, in which there are not some expressions which give offence or at least uneasiness; and it is not improbable that I who am so zealous in the cause of Universal Peace, may be so unhappy as to injure the feelings of some individuals to whom I write. Offences given by writing are the cause of peculiar wiles. In conversation a word spoken inadvertently, if it injure the feelings, may be so explained, as to leave no unfavorable impression; but if such things are written, there must of necessity be an interval of time, in which the trouble will remain, and the feelings of course be disturbed. I come then to this conclusion, that when we write to our friends we had much better write in such a manner as to increase rather than diminish their comfort. - On Saturday morning I went with your father, (who was going to Deerfield) to Northampton, and stayed at Charles'; till yesterday after meeting - when I returned with Bethier and Frank. - Theodore is taking his turn in staying at home. - Elizabeth was pretty near sick the night she came from Cabotville, but with good nursing and the blessing of heaven, she has become quite comfortable again. - Your uncle has been in this evening to send ^{to you} by Theodore a formal though verbal invitation to Caroline's wedding, which they intend to have celebrated next week Tuesday evening - - come if you can, it need not take you more than twenty four hours. - most affectionately yours and Helen's - Elizabeth

Mr. Edward P. Huntington

Cabotville —

