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DESCRIPTION OF REPRODUCED ITEM:

Elizabeth Huntington. ALS (Elm Valley), to My dear Frederic, 1845 May 20. In: Porter-Phelps-Huntington Family Papers, box 12, folder 10).

Dr. Frederic D. Huntington

Boston

No. 20. Harrison Avenue

Mrs. Shearer.

Elm Valley May 20th 1845-

My dear Frederic, It is a little singular that two or three of our late letters, have met between here and Boston. This I intend to send by Mrs. Shearer, (once Dorothy Dickinson) who has been several weeks at her father's, and intends returning to Boston on Thursday; her father is to accompany her, and go from there to Templeton with Mr. Sablin and his wife, who are expected to attend the Anniversaries. Mr. Shearer is quite in your neighbourhood now, having removed this Spring to Hudson Street - near the United States Hotel. -

I have often thought of telling you of an application for George's head, which has been used by Mrs. Althrop for their child, who is afflicted in the same way - and which they think has been beneficial; it is a mixture of tar and lard, equal parts of each. - Another case of a similar kind was mentioned to me a few days ago, as having been cured by ^{the child's} being fed freely and to its ~~entire~~ satisfaction, with something which the mother craved inordinately - but did not obtain. - Now my dear Hannah, don't laugh and be incredulous; I have heard of many things of this sort, - and have had some experience myself in aversions if not in longings. - Of these I could tell you

better verbally, than in writing - So brighten up your memory, - and you may perhaps cure the dear little fellow - I sometimes feel as if I could hardly be content to wait till September before I see him. - I have just been reading your letter of the 17th. which was handed me as I was writing the last sentence; so our letters have not met on the road this time, but one thing is very evident, and that is, we think of each other at nearly the same time, and so hold intercourse, tho' widely separated. - As to your purchase, your father says "tell him it is just the thing." I rejoice with you, and I would give thanks to Him who has always been with you, a pillar of a cloud by day, and a pillar of fire by night - he has so signally favoured you, in temporal things, that I am led to ask him, that you may not have ^{been} ~~all~~ your portion. - worldly prosperity, sometimes hardens the heart, - may your experience be, "that the goodness of God leadeth to repentance" - humility and penitence are most becoming and proper for us all. -

Wednesday morning - A short sentence at the close of your last, attracted my attention and perhaps interested my feelings more than it ought - it is this, "we hope yet to see you by the last of June." If the Lord will, it will be so. - When you mentioned that the scarlet fever had been in Mr. Sargent's family - I thought possibly George might have taken it, but as you say nothing of it I hope he has been preserved. - Mrs. Sumner came home with Elizabeth quite cured of her disease, but rather feeble; she however gains strength very fast. - and is able to assist a good deal about the work - he will probably spend the summer here.

Theophilus's wife is getting back to her usual station in the family - he thinks of taking her to Deerfield for a visit next week. - The rain last sabbath prevented our going to Anson but I was at Charles' on Friday and they were all well. - we have had no letters from Orwigs since the first of April, and have heard nothing from William since he told us of his intention of sitting out the first Sunday in May. - Your father is going on with his mountain work. he generally spends the fore part of the day there; he has invited me to go to Dr. Dickerson's this afternoon and carry this letter. - The season, the weather, & the scenery - so purified and refreshed by the late rains, all conspire to invite us abroad. - The Lord is good. he sendeth rain from heaven. and fruitful seasons; and more than this, he encourages us to believe that his spirit is as freely given to the sincere sinner. - "O that men would praise the Lord for his goodness and his wonderful works to the children of men." - After saying that I deeply love you all, and wish you every blessing I will leave the rest of the paper for your father. - your mother Eliza

After dinner. Your father is occupied with the Gazette - and will probably write you at length another time. - Your brother grows thin, as the warm weather and hard work come on. I hope this health may continue.