

Reverend Frederick D. Huntington

Boston

Reverend Mr. Holland



Elm Valley Oct. 21st 1842 - Friday evening

Dear Frederic, Having heard that ~~that~~ Mr. Holland expects to close his ministerial labours in Northampton on the next sabbath, I feel quite inclined to tell you of our journey home; and also to express and repeat indeed the satisfaction which I feel in your condition and prospects. I'm doing this the first object which presents itself to my thoughts in our dear Hannah, for I begin to cherish a strong desire that she may be ours as well as yours. From what I have seen and heard of her, I can truly say she is all that I can wish. The opportunity for becoming acquainted was ~~very~~ short, but my confidence in your discernment and judgment is such, as to leave no room for doubt and anxiety. Besides, what we have seen and known of her and her friends seems wonderfully to have increased our desire for further intercourse and more intimate acquaintance. Since we parted with you in Boston, my thoughts have been very much occupied with your affairs. - Your new relations and duties, with their everlasting consequences, have appeared to me as almost sufficient to overwhelm a feeble mortal, and nothing

but the voice of Jesus saying "my grace is sufficient for thee," can give assurance and support. — may the ~~ears~~ next prayers which ascended from so many hearts on the evening of your ordination, reach the mercy seat, and bring down countless blessings on ministers and people. —

When we reached home which was a little before five, we found Bethia ready to receive us with a good fire which was a most agreeable thing, as we were a little short of being frozen. Every thing had gone on regularly during our absence, and our friend gave us a hearty welcome, tho' our absence was so short as to be hardly perceptible. In the evening your uncle called — and we were very glad to find that Charlotte was doing well — and that no others of the family had shown symptoms of having taken the disease — this you will be so kind as to mention to Arthur when you see him. Mr. Smith your classmate is to preach for us two or three ^{sabbaths} after Mr. Holland leaves.

Saturday evening — By the mail this evening we received the Evening Transcript — The notice of the ordination is handsomely written, perhaps too highly seasoned, but very gratifying to us who were most nearly concerned. Amidst such a succession of prosperous circumstances, may we none of us be led to think more highly of ourselves ^{or of each other} than we ought to think, but to think soberly — remembering that God resisteth the proud but giveth grace to the humble. Frequent and constant communion with the Infinitely pure spirit, can ^{alone} preserve frail ~~frail~~ mortals from

To Mr. Targant's family present my respectful regards — To Hannah say love, not get married, but going on to perfection. I love to think of her as one who will encourage and assist you in spreading among your people the kingdom of God. I have often thought I to be to have, that as sabbath after sabbath papers on, such and lasting impressions are made upon the hearts of those who hear; so that it may be truly said of them, "Then they that feared the Lord spoke one to another, and the Lord hearkened and heard it, a book of remembrance was written before him, for them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon his name." When you write, tell us the hymns you read tomorrow. —

Our return your father has been rather a musing mood — tho' not melancholy — he has his honours with great fortitude — as for me I have had so many pleasant recollections, and anticipations, and I think I may say such a grateful view of the good gift of God to us all, that there has been no room for gloom or discontent. —

"The Lord send thee help from the sanctuary, and strengthen thee out of Zion, remember all thy offerings and fulfil all thy petitions!" Pray for us — and may our united supplications reach the mercy seat, thro' the intercession of our all prevailing Advocate.

Yours with true love a
mother's love Elizabeth —
Write by Mr. Smith.