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DESCRIPTION OF REPRODUCED ITEM:

Elizabeth Huntington. ALS (Elm Valley), to My dear Frederic, 1845 Sep 21. In: Porter-Phelps-Huntington Family Papers, box 12, folder 10).

Dear Frederic D. Huntington

Paxbury—

Mass.

By Mrs. Phelps.

Elm Valley Sept. 21st 1845— Sabbath afternoon—

My Dear Frederic,

As your father and I are shut up at home on account of the rain, I have suffered my thoughts to wander, even to you, not however for any worldly purpose, but perhaps from no better motive, a kind of longing to step in among your people and worship with them under your ministrations. As I cannot do this I will thank God that he has given you this blessed work, and entreat for you the farther and continual supply of his holy Spirit this Comforter and the Consoler, that its influences may attend all your labours making them easy and pleasant to your self and of great and lasting benefit to your people. I was much obliged to you for the account you gave me of Mrs. Howard's death, or rather her triumph over what is called the last enemy. These instances seem to strengthen our faith, and encourage us, while we praise God for what he has done for the departed, to hope that to us also in the hour of need he will shew mercy and forgiveness.

Your letter to your father respecting William's affairs, came last

evening - we had heard more than a week ago that a letter had been sent to him from Abby which he had not received - but before this he probably knew all about it, and has communicated to you his plans. he has not been here for two or three weeks.

It is about ten days since Mills was taken down with the same fever which Charles had, but in a much milder form - about as severe as Susan's; we have not heard directly from him since Wednesday - he was then no worse - Charles recovers slowly - he seems to have come back from the borders of the unseen world, may be bring back impressions which will help to prepare him ^{when all is over} to enter that world with peace and joy.

Sabbath evening - On receiving this you will find that Susan is nearly well - and your aunt in Boston or in the vicinity of Boston. Your father has not yet prepared his land for sowing, but thinks he shall soon - ~~he~~ spends his time there when it does not rain - a week past he has had an Irishman who has given him a good lift - his courage does not fail - for if he does not sow this fall he is quite sure he can get a crop by sowing next spring. - Hope in - hope ever seems to be his motto. - Your brothers are very busy - Theodore's health has been unusually good, or rather he has ~~had~~ less of sickness than in summer past - his wife too seems to grow strong since the hot weather is over - I have heard in a whisper that they think of visiting Boston this fall or winter, but say nothing about it. - Theophilus will take his wife and children to Abington this week, Providence

permitting - and leave them for a long visit. Bethia bore the anxiety and watching of Charles's sickness wonderfully, as well as Charles - they took care of him attentively, every night while he was sick excepting three - Charles sitting up till one or two o'clock, and then Bethia taking his place - How much cause have for thankfulness and praise to him whose mercy endureth forever.

Your father thinks your first piece in the last Magazine is the best he has seen on that subject. I should like to know the writer of some pieces in that work - another thing - did you write the ^{piece} signed D.F. in the last Register in answer to the complaint against clergy - men of Boston who go into the country for the summer - it is a good reply let it be whose it will. - As I must carry this to Mrs. Phelps this evening, you will allow me to say rather abruptly that I am with unfailing affection your mother Elizabeth -

Hannah Weston that I love her dearly - but I like to tell her of it - George does not know how well I love him - but it is no matter. It did my heart good to read what your aspirations are in his behalf - regard him as a blessing lent not given - as is every favour which we enjoy.