



AMHERST COLLEGE LIBRARY, ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL
COLLECTIONS

PORTER-PHELPS-HUNTINGTON FOUNDATION, INC.

This reproduction of an item in the Amherst College Library is not to be reproduced or published, in whole or in part, nor sold or given away, without written agreement of the Porter-Phelps-Huntington Foundation.

Not for commercial use without paid prior permission from the Porter-Phelps-Huntington Foundation. For inquiries, contact Amherst College Archives and Special Collections, archives@amherst.edu

DESCRIPTION OF REPRODUCED ITEM:

Elizabeth Huntington. ALS (Elm Valley), to Frederic, 1843 Nov. 19. In: Porter-Phelps-Huntington Family Papers, box 12, folder 9).

minister do his own work - and detain him no longer - I have
done, only let me once more tell you ~~that~~ that I am with
true love yours mother.
Elizabeth

Rev. Frederic D. Huntington

Boston
To be left at United States Station

Wm. Thillard.

Sabbath - Nov. 19th 1843.

Dear Frederic,

I wrote a few lines to you in haste yesterday, and
sent them to North Andover to Mr. Thillard who is going on Monday
to Boston. ~~When~~ ^{After} he returned from carrying the letter, he
brought your address to him, for which we all feel much obliged
and by which we were greatly comforted. - As your thoughts seem
to be occupied with the last scenes of our dear Edward's life,
I have thought that a little time spent in looking over some of the
important incidents of his ~~life~~ ^{life} may not be wholly foreign to
the duties of this Holy Day - our family have all gone to N. H.,
and as we cannot all go at once, I take my turn today in staying
at home.

As your father a few days since, was examining
the papers contained in a trunk which Edward left in our
garret several years ago, he found a sheet of paper folded and
much worn - torn apart in some places, and apparently the
beginning of a manuscript which he may have continued since.
I copy them for you - believing that the feelings expressed will
be highly interesting to you as they are certainly to me. They bring
to our recollection two ^{who} were very dear to us while here, and
whose bodies rest near each other, with their lovely and loving sisters.

Thoughts suggested on occasion of the death of brother W.

By this afflictive dispensation of providence another of the ties
by which I was bound to earth is broken. Now is it the least.

I think since his death I have felt more lost - more mor-
al inability, than I ever have before. I had flattered myself that
my business was sustained, that my exertions were supporting,
and that I met the encouragement that I did, for his sake.

This advancement has been my excuse to myself for idleness
application, my refreshment after days of continued toil, my
solace under discouragement and difficulties. Then comes,
these refreshments, these solaces I am now deprived of, and as
I go about my duties, it ill accords with my feelings to imagine

that I am doing it for my own personal aggrandizement. By his death I have lost every thing that could be comprehended in the title of friend and brother. his example of inflexible adherence to principle, and sincere endeavours to be actuated by right motives, though still before me, have lost the benefit which is attached to precept by example.

This fraternal affection united in a vigilant solicitude for my welfare, strict attention to my wishes, his endeavours to serve me every way in his power, his willingness to give up any pleasure for my gratification - the close and confiding intimacy, which has for so many years subsisted between us will always be subjects in which memory will delight to dwell. - With him some of the pleasantest hours of life have passed, together we have mingled our tears in the time of distress and bereavement and together at that season we pledged ourselves in God's strength, so to live as to join the dear departed hereafter. Since his death I have felt a strong desire to relinquish my business, and be relieved of the perplexing anxiety, the engrossing care, and the light and frivolous conversation, so inseparably connected with it. So much so that at times I have more than half resolved to embrace the first opportunity to dissolve my present connexions. But on thinking more of the matter, I cannot persuade myself that it would be my duty. I have now many means of being useful, which in more retired life I should not have. I can notice vice, immorality, poverty, and sickness, and with the common smiles of Providence can do something for the reformation of the former, and the relief of the latter. And I am resolved while I stay, whether it be longer or shorter, to pay strict regard to integrity and uprightness in all my dealings, to take every proper method to reprove every kind of vice, to foster and encourage virtue, and to assist and relieve poverty, misery and distress; to maintain a cheerful sobriety of demeanour, to treat all mankind kindly, and to be particularly assiduous in my attentions to each member of my family; to live with death and eternity constantly in view, so that I may never be surprised by the realities - in short to live with a single endeavour to glorify God and an unshaken confidence in the rectitude of his dealings.

August 6th This has been with me a day of uncommon interest. Today for the first time I have joined in the fast of love. I have by so doing promised that I will in future from principle serve God - I have openly espoused the cause of virtue of truth and of religion. I have buckled on

the christian armour. In this panoply I am to combat vice, profligacy and error without, and a host of passions and appetites within. In God's strength I am resolved never to put off the armour till these enemies are subdued, or till death shall close the combat.

The resolution here taken seems to have governed his conduct ever after; and I bless the goodness of God so strikingly displayed in his life and in his death: may we die the death of the righteous and may our last end be like his.

Monday evening - Your request as to butter will be complied with: as far as we are able - At the end of another month we can perhaps tell better what we can do.

you will not of course expect October butter in the winter, for grass and hay produce butter of a very different quality - when you can suit your selves better let us know it.

Thanksgiving is approaching - you will probably keep it at your own home - how I should love to look in upon you: but our hearts I trust will meet and mingle their offerings with the loved ones in heaven. - Mrs. Fisher has invited the old folks and Bathia to dine with her - but I believe they will feel best just here.

Your uncle and aunt came in this afternoon and drank tea with us without ceremony - he was cheerful and very agreeable - it was one of his best times.

You will oblige me by informing me what is the price of Ware's Enquiry into the evidence of natural and revealed religion. - Tell Hannah I love her dearly for keeping hold of your arm in your walks of usefulness among your people - It is a blessed work to seek out and encourage and instruct those who are too modest or too unworthy to partake of your monthly invitations. I hope these gatherings are blessed by the word of God and prayer. But hush mother - let the