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DESCRIPTION OF REPRODUCED ITEM:

Elizabeth Huntington. ALS (Elm Valley), to Mary, 1833 Jan 6. In: Porter-Phelps-Huntington Family Papers, box 12, folder 12.

Madley Jan. 6th 1833. Sabbath evening.

My dear Mary, According to your request, and in compliance with my own inclination, I improve, in haste, a few moments after the family have retired, to refresh my mind and yours with the recollection of those truths to which we have been to-day attending. The Sabbath is indeed a precious season; happy for us if we can so employ its sacred hours as to find ourselves making progress in the heaven-word course. We have had our duty made known to us very clearly on the important subject of public worship. If we have been deficient in this respect, let us be more watchful in future. But watching is not enough. "Watch and pray" is the injunction of our blessed Lord; and of this he set us an example in his own practice. Let us not hurry over our devotional exercises in a heartless manner. Let us never rise from our retired moments, nor cease to offer our petitions till we find our souls filled in some measure, and warmed with the desire of being in some ^{degree} ~~measure~~ perfect as our Father in heaven is perfect, and of having Christ formed within us the hope of glory. Are we fearful and weak? - Let us plead for strength with him who giveth to all men liberally and upbraider not. Do we feel our need of greater faith and zeal to perform his will? - Let us urge the petition of the disciples, Lord increase our faith. Thus committing our souls to him in the way of well-doing, we need fear no evil: for they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength. Tomorrow is to be observed as a Day of fasting and prayer for the conversion of the world - if we do not unite in public, we can in secret and who knows but our desires may miraculously acceptance with the cloud of incense, and the earnest intercessions which may arise before the throne of a prayer-hearing God. William is going over in the morning - write a few lines by him to your affectionate mother - &c.

Miss Mary D. Huntington

Northampton

Mary D. Huntington 1833