

Rev. Amos A. Phelps,  
Boston,

Mr. Willey

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of an Academy in that place, they heard me patiently and  
"the common people gladly."

For Christ & the Slave,

Yours respectfully,  
Jos. Warr Cross

Rev. Amos A. Phelps



Seminary at Andover, more than four years ago — and not  
ashamed to be known as such there either. The "Records of the  
Society" there will show, that I was then one of the Officers.  
But I speak as a fool. My object simply is to prove, that  
though always an Abolitionist, since I embraced "the truth  
as it is in Jesus" — living, I shall be an Abolitionist, dying, I  
shall be — yet I have ever wished to keep in the back-  
ground, and still wish to keep & be kept there. Older & a-  
ble & better men, who have fought long & hard & well in  
this Christian warfare, now occupy the front ranks, & I am  
content to stand behind them. Should they fall, glorious  
martyrs in this holy cause, GOD knows, I am ready to  
take my turn & fill their place to the best of my abilities.  
Give them, let me follow in their steps, for their spirit &  
example is that, upon which I delight "to look & learn".

In all my labors & travels in the Anti-Slavery cause, I have  
never made any charge against the parent Society, and prob-  
ably never shall. My own private purse has defrayed all ex-  
pense — & I have cheerfully contributed, according to my a-  
bility to the funds of the County, State & National Societies.

Three weeks ago last Sabbath — or favor, I am not pointing which —  
I gave an Address of two & a half hours in length, upon the sub-  
ject of "immediate emancipation", to the people of Chatham, Cape  
Cod. There was a large & very attentive audience. The efficient  
Society will soon be formed there. Having been for five years, Preceptor



Boston, Aug. 7<sup>th</sup> 1837

J. W. Cross.

PHELPS  
MSS.

33  
Dear Brother,

Boston, Aug 7

I have taken measures to ascertain the names of persons, who will circulate petitions in the towns you named. I am located in the woods, & half the time know not which way the wind blows. It would be impossible for me, without a great sacrifice of time & money, to visit all the towns specified in your letter, in propria persona. Our Quar. Meet. — vide public notice — is Tuesday Aug. 15<sup>th</sup> at Westford.

I have just received a Commission as local Agent of the Amer. A. S. Soc. which I will accept, on condition, that I may do just as I have done for years — lecture, talk, preach & pray upon the subject, whenever & wherever I could with convenience, & not unfrequently, with much inconvenience & insult, both as a man & a Christian. Ever since I have been in the Ministry, I have not shunned to declare "the whole counsel of God" in regard to this matter & to bear public & solemn testimony against the sin of slavery, at home & abroad, in all countries & under all circumstances. Through my feeble instrumentality, the principles of the Anti-Slavery Society were first disseminated in Littleton & some of the adjacent towns, where they have taken deep root, springing up rapidly & vigorously, and are now bringing forth fruit abundantly. Not ipse dixit, simply — I appeal to the Pres. & Sec. of the Society in the above mentioned towns I was an Abolitionist, while in the