



Beman

Rev. A. A. Phelps

East Boston



There is here on the part of the colored people a great tendency to the  
Baptists on account of immersion. Brother Beman gratifies the desire  
for immersion and has I believe added many more to his church  
than the Baptists. In this way the Core Communion principle is prac-  
tically defeated. It is important that our colored brethren get enlarge-  
ment in all their views in order to unbroken cooperation with the  
mass of their anti-slavery & Christian friends.

But how important  
the salvation of the soul and an example of piety on the part  
our free colored population! Its bearing upon Slavery and ulti-  
mately upon the salvation of the world I need not name to you.  
I have not the facilities requisite to bring about an arrangement  
for brother Beman but in the Providence of God you seem to have  
and I hope that as one token of gratitude to him for returning  
health you may joyfully come to the rescue of our poor  
brethren perishing at our doors. It will be necessary to raise at least

\$200 for the dispenary department. Hope it may be in your power  
to get up the subscription which you named to me as probable  
very soon as brother Beman's year is nearly up and he makes  
his arrangements to go or stay as early next month as possible.  
Mrs. Beman is a very efficient woman and labors much in doing  
good.

My time this time is very brief. I arrived on Friday last  
and leave to day. My aged mother at New Haven has had a  
paralytic stroke and I can not continue but a few  
weeks or months at farthest. I trust my children named  
to you when I last saw you are converted to Christ. The eldest, a son  
of 15 years is very decided & I trust humbly devoting himself to the  
service of God. Pray my dear brother that they may really live  
for Christ. Says address for our Committee seems destined to  
accomplish a great amount of good.

Rev. A. A. Phelps

Your affectionate Brother  
J. S. Preble

It might be useful for you to see brother Beman now on the subject of the mission.



him no compensation. Were he employed one half of his time among his own church or congregation and the other half in a direct missionary effort over the city & particularly at the North End he could easily and advantageously as a means of promoting the missionary objects look after the school and promote the interests of education.

It is evident that brother Bennett cannot be sustained on the plan now pursued & that he must leave Boston unless some new course is adopted. I know of no place where he can do half as much good as he can in Boston. He has the right influence here & is much beloved and can lead the colored people safely and soberly. You know that his mode of thinking and pursuing any object is much after the manner of the Congregationalists. His intercourse has been with them mostly from his youth. As most of the colored people are Methodists and Baptists there is <sup>now</sup> no opening for a congregational church here but by having such a man as brother Bennett we may conceive most that is desirable and should any circumstances transpire to derange the colored Methodist system the people will be prepared to settle down upon principles of Congregationalism. To some minds this thought may be regarded as important. I am sure that the tendency in the Methodist church in this country is from Episcopacy to Congregationalism & Independence and will soon be apparent in the colored branch of it.

It might be useful for you to see brother Bennett now on the subject of the mission.



S. S. Jocelyn,

Mar. 20. 1843.

Boston March 20<sup>th</sup> 1843

Dear Brother Phelps

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I am happy to learn that you are recovered and trust that God will give you better health than heretofore and enable you to perform more than ever in his service.

I am exceedingly desirous to see you in relation to the efforts for the improvement and salvation of our colored brethren of which we conversed formerly. I am obliged to return to New York to day and cannot see you. I was with brother Benson & preached for him yesterday and also had a good deal of conversation with him about his prospects of usefulness and the difficulty of securing a support. It is evident that a great field of doing good in addition to this church is open and extending at the North end. Appearances are there favorable for a work of grace. The public school committee have established a colored school that may and depend upon brother Benson to devote time & labor in visiting parents and awakening & keeping up a lively interest in the education of their children. They offer