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1843

Rev. Amos A. Phelps

Boston

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September 15

Gerrit Smith

(Petersburg Aug. 28 1841)

My Dear Mr. Phelps

\* Petersboro Aug. 28 1841. I this day receive your interesting letter. As I am preparing to start a journey, my answer to it must be brief.

66 I am happy to hear that the integrity of some of our Benevolent Societies is about to be put to the decisive test. As I long ago turned my back on these Societies because of their proslavery spirit, it does not become me to be active in applying this test. It would savour of insidiously for me to commiserate with them on any subject.

Badly as I think of these Societies, I cannot believe that they will accept their bloody bequest. But whether they reject or accept it, God will come to the rescue of truth & righteousness.

You speak of the dear Scandinavians. I have never yet seen them. But hope to be able to visit them in the coming Autumn. It is, I doubt not, to come great joy that they are cast on our shores. The idea is both interesting & delightful, that they may be employed as Christian missionaries in the heart of Africa.

What a prime paper is the Free American! It could have no better editor. I lay in the name of the slave, that Mr. Wright be continuing its Editor. The enclosed checks is toward his salary as Editor.

Today's mail brings me cheering news from Vermont: How strange, that any abolitionists should longer oppose the reasonable & necessary policy of independent abolition nominations! Res. A. A. Phelps -