

Rev. Geo. Tillotson.

Brooklyn Apr. 14<sup>th</sup> 1841.

Brother Phelps,

23

After to say a pleasant letter  
between us, permit me to inquire how you are  
prospering. Tho' I had the pleasure of seeing your  
wife a few moments last summer at Farmington,  
I believe a number of years have elapsed since we  
last met. I hope you will in answer to these few  
lines, ere long report yourself. As to myself & old friends,  
I have not much to say at present. I seem to be a sort  
of fixt in this place; having twice attempted to get  
away, for what I considered a better field of usefulness; but  
did not succeed, thro' the reluctance of my people to  
give me up. I have a pleasant location & a dear  
& excellent people, among whom I have been much  
blessed. But like yourself I have been called to pass thro'  
& thro' of domestic afflictions. My once happy home  
has been made a desert. But in my consolings, I  
trust God has not forsaken me; & at times he has  
given me the spirit of "Songs in the night." Three years  
since, I bought & fitted up a house in this village, & in  
about a year & a half, it became the house of death to  
that bosom friend who, <sup>constituted</sup> its principal charm. Since wh.  
time, I have been ~~been~~ a solitary boarder in my own  
habitation; (with the exception of 10 weeks absence at  
West on a journey last summer) Tho' late winter & the  
one previous were seasons of considerable religious interest

& of 7 deers of divine blessing among my people.  
Unitarianism here, as well, is about defunct. For the  
last 3 years that Soc<sup>y</sup> has been able to have only a  
<sup>preacher</sup> christian, whom they could get cheap, & it is doubtful  
whether they can continue him long. My people  
increased my salary 4 years since, & divine Providence  
has in various respects prospered the congregation.  
Brother Rockwell <sup>of Plainfield, a colony, & elsewhere</sup> is to be dismissed soon, chiefly  
for lack of support. My classmate, Chas. Rockwell at  
was lately at Plainfield, on his way for N. H., whether he had  
been to see about getting his narrative of travels published. I  
am told he has become as fat as a porpoise, down on of  
Cape Cod. James Smith is doing finely, I am told at  
Tisbury, ~~Mass.~~; is active as a pastor, & is highly  
regarded as a preacher. He is becoming a great man,  
is already approximat<sup>e</sup> competence. As to Farmington  
affairs, you probably have intelligence as often as I do.

Now a word as to business. Can you consistently make  
some inquiries for me? I wish to invest 5 or 6 hundred  
dollars now, in some safe state, where I may reasonably  
expect good interest. I have thought of buying 5 shares in  
Boston & Worcester rail road. It sells about 5 or 6 cents  
above par. That road must in future have an immense  
travel; & it has struck me, it must be good stock for a  
permanent investment. If I do not put it there, I shall prob-  
ably put it in bank stock. I believe that rail road stock  
has regularly paid 6 per. cent, & I suppose the prospect is,

Stock will be higher in future years. Will you  
not make inquiries of some persons of good judgment,  
acquainted with the matter, whether it would be a safe &  
good investment, for one who does not wish perplexity  
with money matters. What are the regular times in the  
year for dividends on that stock? I understand new stock  
is to be created for the laying of the double track. When is  
it to be created? When done, will it be put to subscribers  
at par, or be sold for all it will fetch over par? Have  
any of the avails of the road been applied towards the new track  
thus far? "Cook & Gies" of your city have a public sale of stocks  
of various kinds every Saturday. There is another sold every  
Wednesday by a Mr. Brown; the street & number, I cannot  
give. If authorized, they would buy any kind of stocks, at the  
lowest prices. Must the money be on hand at the time of  
purchase. In other words, could they not buy a few shares  
for me, & give me a week in which to provide the money?  
Should I purchase, would you receive & pay over the  
money for me; shall you be in the city for 2 or 3 weeks  
to come? Make sufficient inquiries, <sup>and state points</sup> & then write  
me, if you are willing to take the trouble. If you can have  
an answer prepared by Monday morning, perhaps a friend of mine  
will call & take it. If not, send by mail in the course of  
a week if convenient.

Yrs. fraternally  
E. J. Williston.

Mr. Jackson -

Banks Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> 1852.  
Globe Merchants, Suffolk, Massachusetts.  
all above four.

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900 - 1588

Rev. Amos A. Phelps  
Boston  
Mass.

Dr. Wm. N. Gannett.