

Rev. J. W. Pennington  
Jamaica, Feb. /46.



Rev. A. A. Phelps  
New York city  
United States

Eliat Station, Parish of Metcalfe Ia M d. Feb 28<sup>th</sup> /46

My Dear Bro Phelps: I have the pleasure to inform you that I am quite well, and also that our object of doing good by my visit here will be fully realised. I cannot tell you the extent of the field which opens up before me here.

I must make notes and tell you when I come home. Bro Thompson the Pastor of this Station is just building a chapel. He is greatly in need of assistance. He has got his frame up covered and partly shat in so that he can live in a part of it, and warship in the other part. He has just received some doors from our country, for which he is very thankful. They were sent by the Committee from Boston. They are ten in number. I was come the day before he moved into the house, and two the day after he moved, and the next day came the rest. I had the pleasure of lodging with the first night in this new house, and the next day of holding a meeting on the subject of education among his people. It was a good meeting.

They have a school here of about 40 scholars.

Brainard Station. Since beginning this letter this morning, I have rode over to this station

to attend a meeting, on the subject of education, which takes place this afternoon at 4 o'clock. And now Bro, I wish to call your attention to a fact or a few facts.

You know you spoke something about going into the publishing business. Well since I came to this island I have been requested by the Governor to use my influence to interest the people on the subject of education. I have spoken several times on the subject in Kingston, and in other places, and I find the interest increasing daily. Last Sabbath I preached in the Baptist Church at Annatto Bay. On Mon I held an educational meeting at Buff Bay in the forenoon, and at Annatto in the evening at 6 o'clock. These meetings were both large and interesting. But the one in the evening was very large. The Baptist Chapel which seats 2000 was crowded. The next morning as I was leaving several gentlemen of the establishment beset me to stay longer. In these meetings I have access to all the Stations, Wesleyan, Maranians, Presbyterians, The Kirk, and Baptists as well as our own denomination.

But every where they are destitute of suitable school books.

The books they want are Arithmetic, Grammars, Geography, also Spelling, Reading & writing books. I think an Arithmetic, and a Geography might be prepared which will take well. In the acquaintance I am forming here I think I can open the way for a good market.

American books take well here; and every thing done in the way of trade by Colored people and Abolitionists in America will take well. The question has often been asked me why don't the abolitionists form companies and carry on business with us?

Now I wish you to cast about in your mind till I come, but keep your own counsel. I think I can make an arrangement here to do something effectual, with a little effort on our side. But let us get a plan established before we say much. We can get book into the market here cheaper than they can publish them or get them from England. I have nothing more at present. I am on my way to Montego Bay and some other places which will take me about 3 weeks, after that I shall take the first chance home.

Yours in haste  
J. M. Clemmington