

1 Somerset Street, Boston,

Aug. 4<sup>th</sup> 1896.

My Dear Mrs. Belden:-

Through a note from Mrs. Thayer received this morning, I learned of the sudden release of your sainted husband from his fair worn tenement of flesh and his translation into that land where none says, "I am sick or weary." I cannot but feel that the summons to come home must have been to him a glad call. I know how the hearts of the dear ones left behind must ache because of the void that is left, and yet you cannot but rejoice that he now can know no more pain, or weakness, or the wearying limitations with which his stricken body surrounded him, but his liberated spirit

no more restrained, can serve and enjoy, to its full, the Master's presence.

I shall always prize the evening with you <sup>in your home</sup>, and the two succeeding conversations I had with him who has gone on before. He was so full of spiritual insight and simple faith and trust and yet so eager to be active in the service of his Lord. For him, the prison bars have been broken, the galling chains of flesh cast aside.

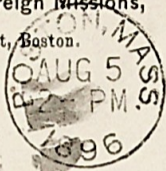
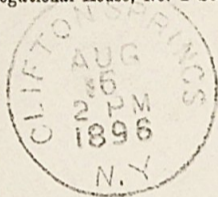
How fitting it was that he could lay aside his garments and respond so quickly to the call of his Master!

My sympathies are with you and the dear children in your loneliness, but I know your consolation is perfect in the Lord. Could your sanctified husband speak to you now he would say, "For me to die is gain."

Yours in affectionate remembrance  
James D. Barton

If not delivered within five days, return to

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions,  
Congregational House, No. 1 Somerset Street, Boston.



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Care Mr. G. S. Humphrey  
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