

1891 06 11 S C Gray to Rev Phillips Brooks

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Benicia Cal. 11 June 1891

Rev. and Dear Sir

Although we are strangers to each other I take the liberty of expressing to you the pleasure with which I regard your election to the Episcopate of the great Diocese of Massachusetts, and my hope that in due time the election will be confirmed by the Bishops, as it has already been by the Standing Committees of the Church throughout the land. Were the Standing Committees of Missionary Jurisdiction entitled to a voice in the matter, I am sure you would receive the affirmative vote of ours here in Northern California, of which I have been a member from 1875 to 1891 inclusive. But we are not a Diocese yet.

I was moved to write this to you from having seen in "The Churchman" that you are descended from the Rev John Cotton, the first minister of Boston, whose blood flows in my own veins, as it does also I believe in those of Bishop Williams of Connecticut.

I was born in Boston in Oct. 1816 and I expect to revisit the home of my childhood this summer and attend Trinity Church at least once during my brief stay probably some time in July. *(end of page 1)*

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On account of my advanced age, I expect to find few, if any of my kindred left, and few old friends, but my birthplace is still held in fond remembrance and I hope it may be so that I can be present at your Consecration as Bishop.

Your Very Respectfully  
Samuel Cotton Gray  
Senior Warden, St Pauls Church

Rev. Phillips Brooks D.D.  
Boston.

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*(side margin note on this page)*

Original draft  
to Phillips Brooks  
11 June 91