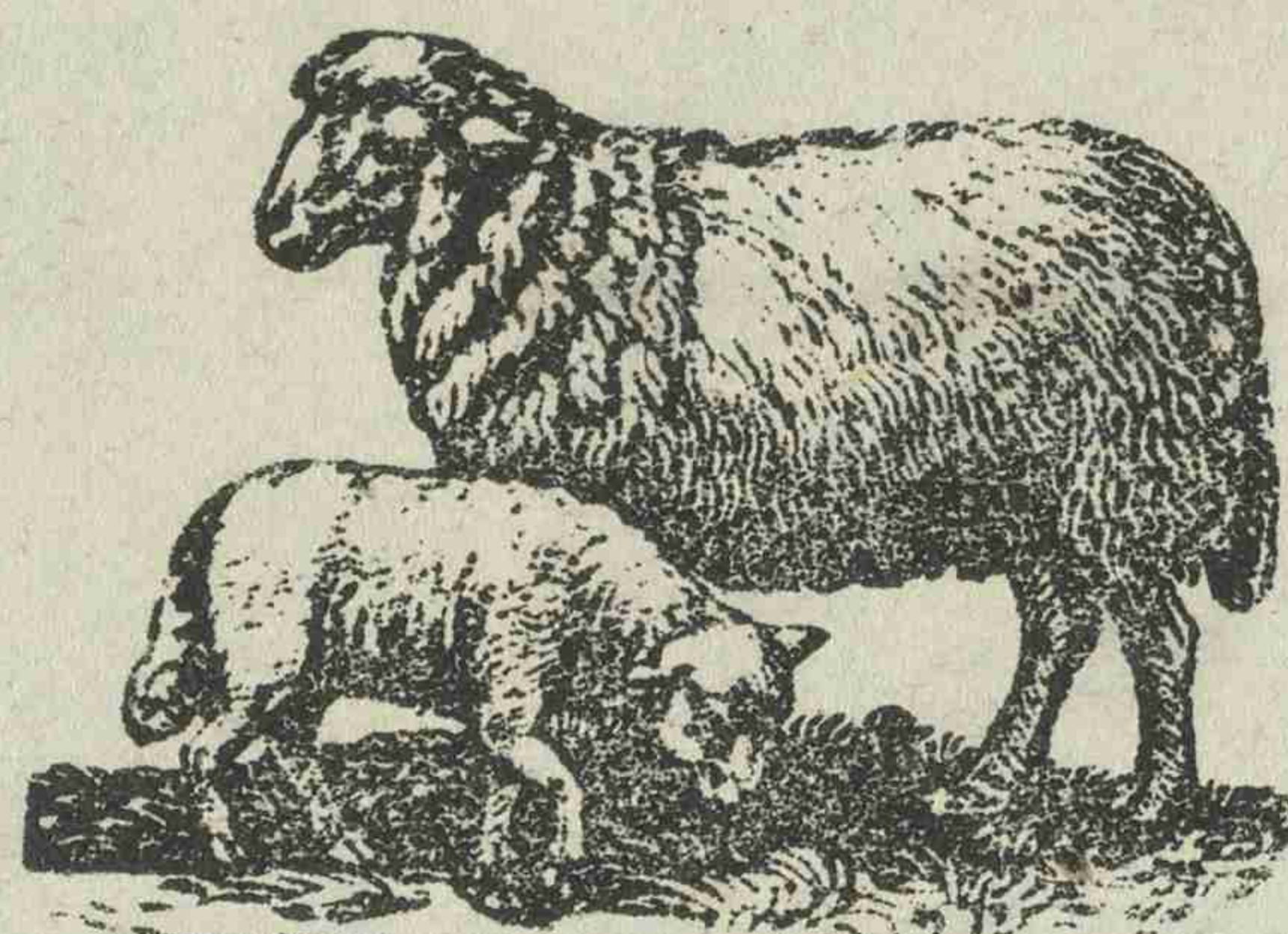


A HAPPY MEETING

FOR THE FOLLOWING

Churches and Congregations in

PROVIDENCE, R. I.



MEEKNESS.

Zion Methodist, Gaspee St., Rev. P. Ross, present Pastor.
Mt. Zion Methodist, Lilac St., Rev. S. A. Mitchill, pres. Pastor.
Bethel A. M. E., Meeting St., Rev. W. F. Dickerson, Pastor.
Congdon Street Baptist, Rev. W. L. Jackson, Pastor.
Union Methodist, Clayton St., Thomas Beekman, pres. Pastor
Elder I. R. Johnson and Elder E. J. Miller, Methodist Zion and
Union Church Missionaries.

MAY GOD BLESS THOSE CHURCHES!

A Hymn written from the Fourteenth Chapter of St. John, by
G. B. THOMAS, OF LEXINGTON, KY. THE PREACHER'S FRIEND

Dear Bretheren I leave you below,
With all my good wishes and love,
And if I should see you no more,
I hope I shall meet you above.

CHORUS.—That will be sweet, when we meet,
When we meet on that beautiful shore, by and by ;
That will be sweet, when we meet,
When we meet on that beautiful shore.

Let your hearts not be troubled Christ said ;
Believe in the Father and me.—
Many mansions in my Father's house,
If not so then, I would have told thee.

CHO.—That will be sweet, &c.

I go to prepare you a place,
If I go I shall then come again,
And receive you then unto myself ;
You shall then find no sorrow nor sin.

CHO.—That will be sweet, &c.

Whither I go the way ye shall know,
For I am the life, truth, the way ;
If ye ask anything in my name,
I will give, let you ask what you may.

CHO.—That will be sweet, &c.

If ye love me, ye then will obey ;—
A blessing to you I will send,—
To the Father above I will pray,
He shall give you a comforter then.

CHO.—That will be sweet, &c.

My Commandments I ask you to keep,
Each other I ask ye to love ;
You may go then where ye shall not weep,
To those bright Glorious mansions above.

CHO.—That will be sweet, &c.

I leave you in comfort and peace ;
My peace that I give, you must keep.
I leave you but will come again,
I shall come, that will be sweet, when we meet.

CHO.—That will be sweet, &c.

Providence, April 25th, 1872.

A HAPPY MEETING

Churches and Congregations in

PROVIDENCE, R. I.



A happy meeting for the following churches...

HB 22379

PROVIDENCE JOURNAL.

SATURDAY MORNING, MARCH 9, 1872.

A WOLF IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING.—WHAT HE DID AND HOW HE DID IT.—ANOTHER "PIOUS" SWINDLE.—G. B. Thomas, a colored man from Lexington, Ky., arrived in this city on the 28th of November last, and has made his home here for the most of the time since then. He was 32 years old, of prepossessing appearance and manners, though very dark in complexion, and came bearing credentials from the *Colored Representative Printing Co.*, of Lexington, as editor and agent of the *Colored Representative*, a paper struggling into existence in that city, for the benefit of the colored race. Moreover, he bore an appeal signed by the officers of the company aforesaid, asking that all friends of the colored race, in the north would freely subscribe and pay to him all they could for subscriptions and in aid of the paper and the cause. He could talk well, could sing like a church choir, exhort and pray like a parson, and was good company generally, so he soon grew into great favor with those of his race in this city, and seems to have been quite successful in his business of collecting substantial aid for the *Colored Representative*. Finding the business so lucrative, he added another string to his bow, and commenced soliciting money for the benefit of the African Methodist Episcopal church and Sunday School in Lexington. Time went on, and the printing company, in whose employ he was, hearing nothing from him except by rumors, and some of the rumors rather derogatory to his character, the business manager, C. Riley, wrote a letter to Rev. Mr. Dunjee, pastor of the Pond street Free Baptist Church of this city, inquiring as to the whereabouts of their travelling agent and editor. The letter, which was received in due time, stated that he was sent out by them, leaving on the 6th of September last, but they had heard nothing from him except indirectly; that he had made no return to them since he left; that they had learned that he was soliciting for the African M. E. Church and Sunday-school of that city, which he was entirely unauthorized to do, and requesting Mr. Dunjee to warn the people that he was an imposter, and to give him no more money.

On Thursday Mr. Dunjee gave this letter to Chief of Police Knowles, who took steps for the arrest of Thomas, and yesterday Officer Winship nabbed him on Great Bridge. He was taken to the Central Station, and his papers were examined. His credentials were all right, of course, but he had no money. A subscription list showed that he had received contributions and subscriptions to the amount of \$522 30, which has probably been all paid in, though he says a portion of it has not. This money he admits he has spent every cent of for his own use, and had been "short" for some time. The list shows that he had been from church to church, from individual to individual, from town to town in this vicinity, and even to Worcester and towns in Massachusetts. There is on it a contribution from one man in Worcester of \$100 marked "paid," and another from a Methodist Episcopal Church, (where or which one is not stated) of \$60. Several of our prominent citizens also appear to have been victimized by him in various amounts, as their generosity or means allowed, but the most of it was in small subscriptions, evidently from poor people. He states that part of the amount shown by the list was collected in Ohio before he came here, and as there was more than two months between the time he left Kentucky and arrived here, this may be true, though the papers, which were loosely kept, do not prove it. He has accounted for the money received by stating

to inquiring friends that he had \$1,000 deposited in the bank, but on his arrest said that he so stated only for fun, and frankly owns that he has spent all he has received, but apparently has no fears for the result as far as he is concerned. He seems to have partially given up soliciting lately, and turned his attention to loafing round barber shops and rhyming. He had in his possession, when arrested, a number of sheets of rhyme, written for St. Patrick's Day, entitled "A Poetical Programme; by Sergt. G. B. Thomas, editor, and the Kentucky Poet: Tune—Wearing of the Green." These he says he was endeavoring to sell to raise money enough to pay a board bill of \$14, which he owes to Mr. Hobbs, keeper of a colored boarding house on Pine street. He has, for some reason, been out of a boarding place lately, probably on account of this unpaid bill, and has been getting his meals at a saloon.

Yesterday he visited Cranston, and made a call upon Amasa Sprague, who encouraged him by making an appointment to see him at his office in this city at 3 o'clock, and he was just leaving the Cranston car to go to Colonel Sprague's office, in fond anticipation, when Officer Winship, who had been on the trail all day, clapped his paw upon him. This is one of the most aggravated cases of pious swindling that comes to our notice, and all the more so as the fellow had the certificate from the company who employed him, which excuses the people and churches for being taken in. The officers are entitled to credit for so quickly putting him beyond the power of doing more harm after the matter came to their notice, and our colored citizens are to be pitied for having thus been robbed of their hard earnings, which they so willingly gave to, as they thought, aid in a good cause.

Accompanying material

HB 22379 R1

"A happy meeting..."