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1-19-1859

## Letter to Charles Petit McIlvaine

Lord Shaftesbury

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Lord Shaftesbury to Bishop C. P. McIlvaine

St. Giles House  
Jan. 19, 1859

My dear Bishop,

Many thanks for your remembrance of me & my special \_\_\_\_\_.

As to the \_\_\_\_\_ of the question you have propounded to me, I am disposed to say that the scheme would \_\_\_\_\_.

It would, by \_\_\_\_\_, be \_\_\_\_\_. The education \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ schools is sufficient for all practical purposes in that who are to emigrate or go very early into service of any \_\_\_\_\_ description. If \_\_\_\_\_ suffered to be desirable, it would excite much jealousy & suspicion. The Ch: of England would not approve it; and the various Denominations would be openly hostile, if it \_\_\_\_\_ a distinctive character.

\_\_\_\_\_ could we find a machinery to carry it into operation. We have difficulty enough now; but, under the proposed arrangement we must have an entirely "paid" Agency. The expense would be enormously increased, and the duties of Supervision beyond our ordinary Committee.

These, however, are very hearty opinions.

I have not even a guess at the name of the American Gentleman. But, whoever he be, I thank God for so good & so generous a man.

And bless you, too, my dear Bishop, & most precious friend; may God preserve you and yours this time & in Eternity!

Yours truly,

Shaftesbury

The Rt. Rev.  
Bishop McIlvaine  
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On the back of this letter the Bishop wrote - "Lord Shaftesbury - Jan. 1859. Answer to enquires I made of him on behalf of Mr. Peabody - when the latter was meditating his great gift- & wanted me to get hints as to the best application of his then intended £100,000 - The Scheme being then unknown, except to perhaps two persons. Lord Shaftesbury was not told who the giver was."

NOTES: Anthony Cooper - 7th Earl of Shaftesbury K.G. was the great English philanthropist. He (1801-1885) succeeded his father in 1851. His mother was a daughter of the 4th Duke of Marlborough by his wife, a daughter of 4th Duke of Bedford. The Earl and his five brothers all bore the same first name. George Peabody was aware of the friendship between the Bishop and the Earl. He desired to have the great sums he gave wisely used but at the moment did not wish to have his plans known. See George Peabody's letter to McIlvaine of Feb. 7, 1859.