

Charles Pettit McIlvaine Letters

8-22-1862

Letter to Bishop Bedell

Charles Pettit McIlvaine

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Opp: No - 620822
about Gower
may

Amc: Aug 22 1862
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My dear Bishop

To my immense surprise
I rec^d a letter from Gower
yesterday, requesting to be
deposed - & giving as a reason
that he is not so convinced of
Episcopacy as he thought he was
& as he supposed he should be
to be an Ep minister. The
letter is an affirmation of
reasons in my favor. I suppose
the truth is he has been dis-
appointed in not get^{ting} up more
in our Ch. Among the Methodists
he was a Presiding Elder &
much considered. With us
he has not been called to super-
seats - I don't think he

ambitions of great things but
he has expectations more than
he has had - I am having no
place - he wishes to get back -

Use get no material, the
average of which is so poor, so
unsatisfactory to our institutions, and
that is so often disappointed
- none that preach the Gospel
with so little distinction of
spirit, among all that come
to us from supposedly Evangelical
Ministers of other denominations, as
the Methodists (American) -
There has been my experience
from the beginning some of
our men think it quite a
matter when a Methodist
Minister of some rank is
desirous of coming to us - I
never - but am always afraid -
I have appointed ministers
at Circleville, Lancaster & Lanes,

-ville -

Thos^d Gray has informed
me that he is going into
the Army as Capt. Surgeon -
I have written that while I
do not disapprove - he should
have first written me for
consent - & that should be
desired after the war to return
to Candidature - It must be
be a new application for
admission - He has a good
medical education - & good habits
for a physician - & that probably
is his place - I never liked his
choice of the ministry & should
be glad if this step leads to
his permanent in the church -
He is good - but too unenergetic
& not enough trained for the
pulpit -

Yours ever
C. P. M.

I shall leave for the East on
the 19th or 20th Sept.