

Charles Pettit McIlvaine Letters

11-7-1855

Letter to Charles P. McIlvaine

Bishop Wilson

The Charles P. McIlvaine letters were written in the 18th and 19th century and therefore may contain language that we understand today as harmful or offensive. You may encounter paternalist descriptions of Native Americans, racial slurs, or sexism. For more information, see our policy page.

Follow this and additional works at: https://digital.kenyon.edu/mcilvaine_letters

Recommended Citation

Wilson, Bishop, "Letter to Charles P. McIlvaine" (1855). *Charles Pettit McIlvaine Letters*. 377.
https://digital.kenyon.edu/mcilvaine_letters/377

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by Digital Kenyon: Research, Scholarship, and Creative Exchange. It has been accepted for inclusion in Charles Pettit McIlvaine Letters by an authorized administrator of Digital Kenyon: Research, Scholarship, and Creative Exchange. For more information, please contact noltj@kenyon.edu.

visiting Station, where no land-journeys are involved
 & by requesting my Suffragan Bishops to take all the
 regions above all a hundred - about the size of Europe -
 what a wonderful time we live in, my beloved
 Brothers! What intercourse, what Electric
 rapidities! - From Calcutta & London will be united, as I never
 and men will cross their oceans in a few days, instead
 of months as I will remember. Even Rail-Roads were about
 to traverse our Panama, & unite the Atlantic & Pacific;
 and also to make the journey from Calcutta to London
 in 7 days, instead of 34 as now - The communications in Turkey,
 Asia & China are rapid progress; and before 1866 (the
 date of some able Commentators, to which I do not consent myself)
 our deepest changes may be wrought. Ferdinand is hopeless -
 the Pope infatuated, if ever man was, with his absurd dogma
 of ^{Infallibility} infallibility, folly - the Nationalities rising, & bearing us
 the hand before us, Earth-quake - the Governments weak
 as in England & free America - the Colonies overgrowing the
 Parent State in Canada & Australia - every thing out of place
 & laboring to bring forth the Manifestations of the Power of God.
 Let us, beloved Brothers, lift up our heads for perhaps our
 redemption draws nigh. Above all, let us stand by Christ in
 these evil days; & let us in our inward affection, and spirit
 cleave closely to him in LOVE; that we at least may stand
 in our lot at the end of the days - To walk with God was
 the commandation of Enoch - it is the secret of all sanctification.
 I am reading Dr Grant's life, the Nestorian; and Mr Hitchcock's
 Geology, which Bishop Smith highly approves. Freeman of
 Whitting's Life has just appeared - he succeeded me at St John's

Dr W. H. G.
 1855

in 1824, but soon left,
 first for Blochum &
 then for Whitting. We
 have been too good &
 excellent. Dr A. H. Hughes
 of N. W. H. Grant, & many,
 many others since I
 last met you in
 England - Lewis' Original
 thought is a first-rate
 French - Bishop Smith's
 life an inspired gem
 of a perfectly correct first-
 and get it well
 maturing later!
 Freeman, probably
 for the best time.
 to have there
 would be separate
 but not separate.
 I have not received
 what it will be. I
 have an idea that
 to be with Christ must
 be first brother then
 any thing else
 (see 1855) - Dr C.

more pleasure than your affectionate letter of July 1st
 and your "Truth & Life" (which however never reached me
 till July 6th) I have just been reading in course the first part
 of "Christ in the Church" pp 295-318 - began the 1st Roman
 the very day the volume arrived, and shall soon come to
 the end of a work which I most highly esteem. Indeed I
 can hardly tell you how completely I agree with you in
 all your views of doctrine & discipline. Especially every
 thing touching the Sacrament is to my heart's content.
 My delay in answering your letter & acknowledging your
 Volume has arisen partly from advanced age (July 2nd 1778
 to Nat of 1855) partly from attacks of sickness, especially
 the alarming obstruction of which the Doctor Ford: the Wier
 died in 1825; & partly from profusion of disquiet & private
 affairs. However, the first clearing since your both arrived
 is given to such a trembling, shaky answer as a Sinner
 will allow. Should it may meet your eye on July 1st 1856,
 neither before nor after; and then if you should forgive my
 delay & favor, with another New Year's gift, I will endeavor
 to be more alert in my reply - I have not time to say

See at Selington 200 copies of my 7th Change Delivered on
6th 23rd, of which a copy will submit upon you, so soon as
No. 2
Latitude 20: 30, East 85° can reach N. L. 40° and West
Long: 85°, for such I "guess" to be nearly your position in
Olio - though you have never told me the name of your
M. S. poles, nor the number & age of your children, & the
number of your Clergy, that I remember. I left Calcutta
(22: 34, S. 20: 20) on Monday on a 4 months' Visitations, if God
should grant me life & health - begin with the Coast of
Assam & visit Ahlyab, Quynoon, Thyat Mo (6 Days' Ocean
Trip up the S. Bay) Mouluin & Amharst - then, taking
Calcutta on my way, Bnglon & the Rivers of Malacca; to
be back at the end of February. No long land journey -

We have had a most interesting Meeting last month
of the Bishops of Madras & Victoria (D. Parrelly formerly my
Archdeacon, & D. Smith of Hong Kong) with Dr. M. Dougal the
Bishop of Labuan & myself - four Chief Pastors in the head
of another India - in a Protestant Cathedral Church erected &
consecrated in 1847 - on occasion of the Queen's Mandate &
the Bp's Commission addressed to the Bishop of Calcutta to
consecrate the said Bishop's seat to his first Missionary
field of duty. It is supposed to be the first Episcopal consecration
out of England since the Reformation. His Title is Labuan,
as the only spot possessed by the Crown - Sarawak is the private
property, under the British King, of Sir James Brooke. I wish
his spirit (the Bp's) were more lauded & evangelical; but he
is an able, vigorous person, in full health, under 40, full
of frequent enterprise - a Student of Medicine before he took
Orders - in fact the man for rough work - We have tried to
vaccinate him with the ^{mild} ~~evangelical~~ infection since he
has been at Calcutta - & I hope with success - for he was

cutthroat before, & free from both Pity & Mercy.

I have had a parcel of books from Bishop Potter of
New York, but without a letter, so that I hardly know
how to thank him. His Change appears to me dull, but
sound, I have sent for the Quarterly Journal of which he
favoured me with the 1st N^o, Jan'y 1854, & which contained
a map of indoctrination about American Bishops & persons very
interesting & instructive - the papers against Puseyism are
capital - In the Appendix I advert for the first time the
merits of the long pending suit against Bishop Doane, in
I see you were engaged. The whole day next gave me an
agreeable view of Nonconformity & Ecclesiastical Society in great
counts. Not so Bps. Harpoto, Willoughby & London awaken
any hope in my mind of the spiritual benefits of an
revived Convocation in England. In the House of Lords there
are the very Proclates who oppose & thwart the good & excellent
Lord Shaftesbury (what an improvement on Lord S. of Id!) and
his good & not affecting measures of immediate usefulness.
But those of former, frightens me completely - nothing worthy
use - the Democratic & Popish Elements constitute every
religious measure - for example, the Court of Directors, ^{the House}
the Bp of London had been brought, after 7 years, to cancel
in an Agre. Kibapovic (for my Dioc. is about 2000 miles
of 1800) but when it came to the point, the President
(L. Legend) though favorable, shrunk from encountering
the factions in Parliament, & I have to superintend ^{the}
from Calcutta to Pinjant on one side, & to Pegu, other
Strait of Malacca on the other. I do what I can by