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Letter to Philander Chase

Rev. S. Hedges

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Shepherdstown. Jefferson County. Va. July 1st 1835.

Rev. Rev. and Dear Sir:

I once had the pleasure of meeting you at Alexandria while I was a student of Divinity in the seminary of that place, and afterwards I had occasion once of writing to you while you were President of Kenyon College, but I suppose, by this time, you have altogether forgotten me. I am the minister of the Episcopal congregation of Sharpsburg and Harpersferry, and the place of my residence is in Shepherdstown. The object of my present communication is to make some enquiry, respecting the prospect of raising up a congregation in some ^{one} of the destitute parts of your Diocese. It has long been my desire to remove to the West, and from all I can ascertain, I am of the opinion that my labours would be more useful in

Illinois, than perhaps in any other of the
western States. I have heard that Spring-
field in your Diocese affords a promising
field of labour to a minister of our
Church, and I have the pleasure of knowing
a family of pious Episcopalians who
reside near that place. If that place is
still vacant, will you be so kind as to tell
me of the prospects there. — I have some
private means of support, nevertheless I would
require some other aid towards my support
from the congregation where I may off.
Be so kind as to write to me as soon as
receive this letter, that I may know what
to depend upon, and if necessary, have time
to make the proper preparations for a removal.

I am truly delighted to hear that you have
become the Bishop of Illinois; my most ardent
prayers are for your success, and that you
may still be the favoured instrument of
building up another Diocese, and may Heaven
grant that the glory of the latter house
may be greater than that of the former.

Bp. Chase.

Your obt. humble servt
Chaplin S. Hed

