

11-18-1835

Letter to Philander Chase

Bishop W. Ward

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Recommended Citation

Ward, Bishop W., "Letter to Philander Chase" (1835). *Philander Chase Letters*. 1016.
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Bishop's Lamb. Isle of Mann
Nov. 18. 1895

Right Revd & dear Brother

The enclosed will shew you that I am doing the best I can in my insular capacity to promote your object. I will continue to do so you may be assured though by doing so I may seem in the eyes of the world to be wasting my interest for a foreign cause instead of employing it for my own - for the Church of Illinois instead of the Church of Mann - the world forgetting the promise and the precept, "give and it shall be given unto thee in full measure". I have always observed that it is bad policy even in a worldly sense to follow too strictly the maxim "Charity should begin at home". I am certain that to confine it to home is inconsistent with the unbounded charity of the Gospel. I have known men confine all their interest to the providing for their Sons, and would not waste a morsel of it by asking for others - and I have known others

men that employed all their interest in doing good
whenever and to whomsoever it was in the power
of their hand to do it, and how often have I seen
the former fail in providing for their sons and
the latter succeed, and what was this owing to but
the approbation and blessing of God. I will therefore
continue to plead for Illinois while I plead for Hann
the world is wide, and thank God England is richly
sprinkled with the pious and the charitable servants
of God; some of whom may be touched for the wants
of the new Diocese of Illinois who might not be so
easily moved by the wants of the ancient Church of
Hann, and vice versa - let us give them their
choice, and let them follow their taste - they will
both be promoting the same end, in benefitting the
same Church the Church universal of which Illinois
& Hann are constituent parts, branches of the same
vine.

Though it has pleased God to enable me to do much
for the Church of this Diocese by promoting its religion
and learning, there remains still much more to be
done. On my arrival in the Diocese 9 years ago I found
most of the Churches in a rapid state of decay & delapidation

originally poor buildings & now insufficient & contain
a third of the inhabitants. I also found the only school
of learning for clergy or laity had been for some years vacant.
After the example of the late Bp. of Ohio I appealed to the
Bench of Bishops & all my friends in England - my dear
Lord Ripon heading my subscription with £100 and by
the munificence of these noble & pious friends I have been
enabled under a kind Providence to build nine new churches
containing upon an average 1000 each costing at least
£10000. -

I have this moment received your letter, and am
from the good Senyor as warm as ever in your cause.
I rejoice and thank God for the bright prospect which
opens before you as hinted in your letter - The building
of your college by the means you suggest is the most likely
thing in the world to take place - it would be the best
possible use in every sense of the word that a rich man
could make of his money & build a college on some
eligible, beautiful spot of the fertile Illinois, and purchase
land in its vicinity - ~~he~~ ^{you} would be sure of a rich return
both in his basket & in his bosom: he would be
promoting the cause of God while he was serving
himself, most effectually. You must not fail
to visit Bishop's Court & the Isle of Mann when you

come to Gueddington, and living with you the kind
 Kenyon. Give our best regards to the good Higgin family
 & with the affect. remembrances & best wishes of all my
 dear family that you enquire after

The Right Revd
 Bp. of Illinois
 at J. Higgins Esq.
 50. Harley Street
 London

My dear Sworn Brother

100 35
 The Rev. Canon Bridgford
 J. Higgins Esq.
 50 Harley St
 London

Nov. 18
 1835
 W. L. Ward

I remain my dear Brother
 your affect. Brother in Christ

W. Loder & I name