

Philander Chase Letters

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10-14-1843

## Letter to Philander Chase

William Meade

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Charlottesville Oct 14<sup>h</sup> 1842.

Right Rev. Dr. Denon,

I cannot forbear thanking you for your most excellent circular to the Bishops on the danger of approaching too near to Rome. She is coming near enough to us; we need not meet her on the way. I have expressed my sentiments on the subject in a letter to the Banner, which I have just written. You have a task before you this year, which requires all the wisdom & grace you can obtain to execute well. I mean the preparation of a Pastoral letter for the next General Convention. It is probably in that way alone that the <sup>worship</sup> voice of the Church can be heard. I trust you will be sustained by a large majority of the Bishops. I hear from good authority that Bishop Hopkins who says that he thinks the best spoken & thought <sup>now declares</sup> fully & charitably of the Treacheries & the unbelief, ~~but~~ <sup>but</sup> have do it no longer. We are in danger on all hands, depend upon <sup>it</sup> our convents for the denomination & an addition for the uncommitted part of the community will be greatly lessened. Our laity male & female are pressed on all hands with questions as to our principles, & they come to the Clergy for an answer. And what answer can they give? - Can they say with Bishop Ordendunk that all power is in the hands of the Bishop by the gift of God - It will not do. When a Bishop acts like a venerable Patriarch he will be venerated accordingly, not otherwise. I would not reduce it an inch below the sculptured pedestal, but we must not carry it above. - I have taken a piece of common paper all I had, secured a hurried moment to send you my thanks. I expect to be in this place in about 17 days for this & in Richmond on the 1<sup>st</sup> of November, & shall beg to hear from you. Is it a recollection that you wrote your letter. One very truly  
W. Meade



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Right Rev

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