

Philander Chase Letters

2-21-1852

Letter to Philander Chase

George Yerger

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Recommended Citation

Yerger, George, "Letter to Philander Chase" (1852). *Philander Chase Letters*. 1381.
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Wicksburg Feb. 2^d 1852

Robins Nest. Ill.
 My Dear Sir

I have just received your favor enclosing an extract of a letter written by you to a friend at a distance, in relation to the loss of your law suit. I was deeply grieved & pained to hear of this loss. After your labor & toil and after the extreme vigilance which you displayed in every step you took, it is indeed hard that it has availed you so little. The Church is interested in maintaining your institution, and I hope through this board Union a sum will be raised to meet your wants, and restore rather enable you to retain an institution which is greatly needed in the West & which bids fair to draw many laborers into the Lord's vineyard.

There is wealth enough on the Church to ~~save~~ save your institution and not feel it. What we have given to us by our Almighty Father, is not at least, in proportion to our means, ^{is due to him.} ~~our own~~ selfishness - a want of self denial, worldly gratifications, all of which are inconsistent with our baptismal vows, are the great & prevailing sins of the day.

I hope God may open all our eyes, and "let us see ourselves, as he sees us." If we could behold ourselves rightly, how different would be our conduct: we should then think more of God & his Kingdom - and would labor more

zealously to promote its extension than we do.
 But it is useless to talk of these things - there
 are many thank God, that are willing to contribute
 their mite, where duty requires it. The question is
 how & what is the best plan to relieve you. You
 may get something by writing to individual friends,
 but I fear you will not get enough. Those that
 would be most willing, may be least able.
 Take this Diocese for example. You have many
 friends I doubt not here - many who would be
 desirous to help you, but they have been
 severely tried in the last few years to support
 the Church here. It requires all the contributions
 to get along with our own Institution which
 we have just commenced to support the
 Synodate and our Missionary operations. The
 drain has been heavy on some of us and
 much beyond the means of ^{many} of us
 and however willing these persons may be
 to help you, they feel they have contributed &
 are still contributing to the extent of their ability.
 - (Of course I mean only those who look upon
 this as a sacred duty.) Under such circumstances
 I fear a great deal of trouble will be expected
 to know how to make a plan of this kind
 to address an appeal to the Churches
 rather than the Dioceses. State the facts - the
 probable loss of the valuable property and
 of the Institutions. (If such be the fact) State

that a contribution of \$2.50 ^{for each Clergyman} from each Diocese
 will pay the debt - (There are about 1600 Clergy,
 which at 2.50. each, would raise four thousand
 dollars, and appeal, - or write to some few
 individual friends of your own as well as
 of the Church, to undertake to raise for you
 in their respective Dioceses, the amount. - Perhaps
 you better say three Dollars, as there might
 be a falling off. ~~Do you~~ State also, if you will
 bless your efforts, and a larger sum should
 be collected than you need, it will be devoted
 to Domestic Missions. - The latter is merely a
 suggestion & if you think it would have a tendency
 to prevent the money from being raised, leave
 it out. Do you not think a plan of this kind
 will succeed. We have 21 or 22 Clergy in the
 State of ~~Mississippi~~, and by way of starting,
 you have a friend in Mississippi, who now
 agrees to raise & send you from Mississippi
 three Dollars for each of her Clergymen: I will
 at all events do what I can in any way.

I wrote you long ago, giving you my opinion about
 your recovering from Ohio, your claims, &c. Not having
 heard from you on the subject, I fear my letter has
 miscarried: God bless you & your endeavours,
 to extend his Kingdom; I hope, if it is his will, we may
 one more meet at ^{the} General Convention, if not sooner.

I am truly
 your friend &c.
 Geo. S. Yerger.

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that a contribution of \$2.50, from each of the
 will pay the debt - there are about 100 clergy.
 about of \$2.50 each, would raise four thousand
 not out, as I think, or just to have been
 in the same manner of your own, or will be
 of the church, to undertake to raise for you
 in their lecture, the document - Book
 you will buy three dollars, in their report
 be a dollar off. ~~the~~ that is, of four will
 help your effort, and a larger sum it was
 be collected. Now you see, it will be devoted
 to purchase books, and the latter is devoted to
 suggestion & if you think it would have a tendency
 to prevent the money from being raised, leave
 it out. Do you not think a plan of the kind
 will succeed. The more of a clergy. in the
 that a method, but by way of starting,
 you have a piece in prophets, when you
 agree to raise ten for prophets
 three dollars for each of the prophets; & will
 at all cost to what I can in any way.
 I wrote you last year, giving you some other
 you receiving from the. your claim to. But having
 done from you on the subject of four or five
 your career; how help you to your prophets.
 to believe in prophets; & that it is in this, the only
 the power great ^{the} prophets, of not down.

Geo. W. Jones
 and
 Mar 30

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