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Philander Chase Letters

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8-12-1851

## Letter to Philander Chase

Henry Lee

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K. Ch. 510812

Rochester, Aug. 12, 1851.

Rt. Rev. and dear Sir,

I have recently had most satisfactory intercourse with your son Dudley, who made me a visit both on his way East, and on his return. His account of Illinois, with reference to the proposed effort to elect an Episcopalian Bishop, interested me deeply; and I pray God that your wishes, as to the result, may be fully gratified. The full meaning of your recent letter to me about Galena was not apparent to me till I had the benefit of his interpretation; and I can now most sincerely assure you that the present most prominent candidate is a far more suitable person for the office in question than the one to whom your thoughts have been somewhat turned. Dr. Whitehouse, you know,



was long in this parish, and he accomplished a work which no man of ordinary ability could have effected. He has his peculiarities, as every man has; but take him all in all, few are better fitted for the office of Bishop. Had I been called upon to name a suitable Presbyter for the place for which he is now a candidate, I think he would have been the one selected.

Whatever, my venerable friend, may be the result, I pray God that the light of His countenance may be lifted upon you in your declining days; and that the issue of the present movement may be such as to enable you to exclaim, "Nunc dimittis," with a joyful heart. I sometimes think of you in connection with those words of the Psalmist, "O God, thou hast taught me from my youth: and hitherto have I declared thy wondrous works. Now also,



when I am old and grey-headed,  
O God, forsake me not, until I have  
showed thy strength unto this genera-  
tion, and thy power to every one that  
is to come." I have had my fears  
that your closing days might be sad-  
dened by the dark prospects of your  
diocese, knowing the efforts that were  
in progress with reference to a Mary-  
land candidate; but my heart is  
cheered for you now; and may we  
soon hear that the crisis has been  
safely passed, and that Bishop Chase  
will have a peaceful evening to the  
long day of his useful life.

I am, Rt. Rev. & dear Sir,  
Very Respectfully & Affectionately,  
Yours in Christ Jesus,  
Henry W. Lee.

Rt. Rev. Philander Chase, D. D.



Dr. Lee

Providence 12 Oct

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1057.