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Letter to C. P. McIlvaine

A G. Norwood

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From A. G. Morwood Esq
N. York -

New York. Dec. 1st 1863.

My dear Friend,

After a certain lapse of time I feel that I have a certain pleasurable wish ungratified, until I have written you a few lines.

The recent victories of Grant, so full of promise in regard to the one great result, have not had the influence on commercial affairs which the Country anticipated.

We still feel great anxiety in regard to Meade. If he is successful, the public eye will then be fastened with more eager interest on the policy of Mr Chase than on the programmes of the war department.

Thus far, your friend the Seal^y has acquired the distinction, of being the great luminary of the

itable, and it also seems, as if that shock should be made by gradual preparation as light as possible.

I have very lately heard with astonishment, the opinion expressed by some of our bank officers, that more inflation would occur, and for some reason that I can not understand, Bank officers by many people are considered as authority. Does it come within the province of a Rev. Bishop to Express an opinion upon such Subjects? and may I ask you yours?

A gentleman who is on intimate terms with some members of the administration told me this week, that it would be the policy of this Government to keep the war open for at least a year, even with immediate military successes, and he gave as a reason, that Administration would insist that Emancipatory laws should

administration. In my opinion,
if all things go right with the army,
then will come the day of real
trial for Mr Chase's reputation.

I consider it presumptuous in
so many humble individuals like
myself, to be obtruding their advice
upon Government, yet, there is one
point upon which, I should like
to have my mind satisfied.

And may I ask your views?
You may have the advantage of
being able to form a correct opinion.

It strikes me that now, is
the time for Mr Chase to begin
to prepare for the great change
that the Country must meet, as
the consequence of complete success.

If farther inflation is to be used -
it seems to me, that Mr Chase will
then make the fatal mistake.

That the revolution must come
with a Shock seems to me inev-

Chase man

be passed by each and all of the states in rebellion, before they would be readmitted to their old fellowship in the Union. This ground, I cannot well appreciate with my ideas of Constitutional obligations, and is antagonistic to the ~~Constitution~~^{trust} officially promulgated by Mr Seward; yet, my informant speaks as with authority. Do you believe this to be so? Large fortunes have been made by and through the war, while the whole country is in process of conforming to the next change, how desirable it would be that only such, should be affected by it. But, I fear that distress will be imposed alike upon the innocent as well as the guilty. Yet, I hope that now, and then Mr Chase will prove equal to his great responsibility, far, far greater, and far more vital to his reputation for integrity, than a withdrawal from any

It has done in the past