

Kenyon College

Digital Kenyon: Research, Scholarship, and Creative Exchange

Charles Pettit McIlvaine Letters

Archives

2-20-1862

Letter to Chase, S. P. (?)

Charles Petit McIlvaine

Follow this and additional works at: https://digital.kenyon.edu/mcilvaine_letters

Recommended Citation

McIlvaine, Charles Petit, "Letter to Chase, S. P. (?)" (1862). *Charles Pettit McIlvaine Letters*. 267.
https://digital.kenyon.edu/mcilvaine_letters/267

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Archives at Digital Kenyon: Research, Scholarship, and Creative Exchange. It has been accepted for inclusion in Charles Pettit McIlvaine Letters by an authorized administrator of Digital Kenyon: Research, Scholarship, and Creative Exchange. For more information, please contact noltj@kenyon.edu.

remembered. My brother writes that
his son is much pleased with the
deskship you gave him - for which
I, as well as he, am much obliged.

There is a good deal of rumour
here that Mason, who by the way, is
a very obscure personage here, is ready
to offer as a price of recognition by the
Govt. a gradual emancipation - a law
providing for self purchase by slaves & pro-
hibiting the separation of husband & wife
by sale. If so - it is a strong proof that
they think slavery a sinking ship. I have
sent a Member of Parlt. to feeling about
for information here for the numerous con-
triv. that I may inform Mr Adams.

Will you be so good as to send
the enclosed to Mr Sturtevant.
Yours affectionately

Chas. P. M. Thomas

London February 20th 1842

Right Hon. Wm. E. Channing

London Feb. 20. 1842

My dear Mr Chase

I am here still doing - Mr
Wood my only co-worker - We had
Bancroft Davis, of Sec. of Legation when
Mr Lawrence was Minister - He staid
a few days, & being well known in
English Society & well versed in Amer-
ican Affairs, & of acceptable manners
he was very useful - Pity he did not
stay longer. He goes, Mr Wood & I
are quite alone for such a work as
that of leaving opinion in England.
He thinks & others think that a con-
siderable change for the better has
taken place in the current of opinion
touching our Affairs in the last month.
Certainly the speeches in Parlt. es-
pecially those of Cabinet Ministers
have been better than were expected
& indicate on the part of the Ministry
as I hear also in private conversation
a real desire to avoid as much as
possible any offence to our Govt. & all
appearance of unnecessary participation

in our struggle - or interference therewith
I have conversed with few that
take so reasonable & intelligent a view
of our affairs as the Duke of Argyll.
His sympathies are evidently with us.
But he is looking with apprehension
upon our financial matters. The last
time I saw him he spoke of a work
by a Mr Spence of Liverpool entitled "The
American Union" - written in the interest
of the Rebellion & with very considerable
ability, which he said was being very
widely read here & was making a strong
impression - especially as to the legal
right of secession & the impossibility of
any return of the seceded States except
under subjugation. The Recorder of London
also tells me it is having a great run
& impression. I wish there were some
American here of legal abilities to answer
it on the legal question.

We have just heard of the capture of Fort
M^o Henry by the Gun Boats on the Tenne-
see River. I we hope next to hear that
our forces have turned the flank of
the enemy at Bowling Green & compelled
their retreat.

I preached last Sunday night to nearly
5000 people in St. Pauls Cathedral - the

largest congregation, the Bp. of Lond. who
was present, tells me that has been there
yet. As I did not preach from notes, I
was anxious lest in the necessity of
speaking with great deliberation in order
to be heard, neglecting the echoes, my
mind would not work with ease -
But I was never more composed or
less disturbed - & I am afraid that I
was heard at the extremity of the vest-
apartment. The Americans were there
in force & seemed greatly gratified -
I go to Oxford soon - I thought I wanted
to avoid it, I am booked to preach in
Great St. Marys - the University Ch. in
which Cranmer was beated & where
he denounced the Pope & all his evils -
in their before his persecutor -

I have had opportunities of conversation
with several of the Cabinet - & my oppor-
tunities of influence multiply - My
case & burdens must be enormous, under
the pressure of the vast expenses they
provided for - & the disheartening effect
on your spirits of the frauds which have
been practised on the revenues of the
Crown - Now I think of you in this con-
nection - I am asked a great deal
about you, especially where Bp. Chase is