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2-28-1824

## Letter to Philander Chase

Thomas S.B. Reade

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Leeds 20<sup>th</sup> Feb<sup>ry</sup> 1824.

Mr Theo<sup>d</sup> Dear Sir. -

When you first opened to me the object of your journey to this Country, I must confess, that the impression on my mind was, that America was fully adequate to furnish the funds required for the Theological Seminary of Ohio. -

This impression was soon removed, when you so feelingly stated to me the infant, uncultivated state of your Diocese: and especially when I read the interesting appeal on behalf of Ohio. -

Your Mission then assumed a new form; & instead of the rich, soliciting the rich; I viewed it as a Church, just rising & ~~from~~ <sup>from</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~old~~ <sup>old</sup> ~~mother~~ <sup>mother</sup> ~~country~~ <sup>country</sup>, inviting the Christian assistance of the old Mother Country. All this is as it should be, the strong helping the weak; & <sup>by</sup> thus bearing one another's burdens, we



in our humble measure fulfil the law of Christ. -  
The three following considerations suggest themselves  
powerfully to my Mind.

1<sup>st</sup> - That the object of your wishes, viz: the obtaining  
assistance from British Christians, to enable  
you to establish a Theological Seminary for  
the Diocese of Ohio; will be principally promoted,  
from the very circumstances already mentioned,  
the infant state of that part of America. -

2<sup>d</sup> - That should you apply any of the sums already  
subscribed, in consequence of the "Appeal" now  
so largely in circulation, in aid of the Seminary  
of New York; it would render the whole of your  
Mission suspicious, as many might, who are  
ignorant of the uprightness of your intentions,  
be led to conclude, that from the first,  
this two-fold object was intended, altho'  
only that of Ohio was made the Suppliant. -



3<sup>d</sup>. - That should you be induced to fall in,  
with the proposal of uniting, or dividing the  
Sums collected, for the two Seminaries,  
it would ~~undoubtedly~~ <sup>indeed</sup> ~~more~~ <sup>may</sup>, paralyze,  
your future exertions for the simple  
interesting object for Ohio.

With respect to the future founding of the  
Seminary, I conceive you have done  
all that Christian prudence & Charity  
could suggest. -

Whilst you wish it to be under the  
paternal Care of the existing Bishop of  
Ohio, <sup>with respect to instruction & internal management;</sup> you would place it under the  
care of all the Bishops as the Guardians  
of the Constitution against the impingement  
of established Canons, or the introduction  
of erroneous doctrines. -

You will kindly pardon these hasty  
lines which present themselves to my  
Mind on this very important subject.



With every sentiment of Christian esteem  
& affection believe me

Yours faithfully

Wm J. Phelps

Wm J. Phelps  
Bishop Chase

Mr Phelps  
Leeds - Feb. 20.

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