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Letter to Philander Chase

George Montgomery West

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(Copy)

Liverpool 29th February 1829.

The Right Reverend Philander Chace

Right Reverend and Dear Sir,

Your unaccountable silence, notwithstanding the many communications, which have been forwarded for you have both grieved and surprised many of your friends - In Coming to Europe for the Promotion of your good work in Ohio, to use your own words "I complied with your most earnest request" and that my success has been every way answerable to your Expectations. The following facts will, I apprehend sufficiently prove.

1st You can draw on M^r. Marriott to the amount of Five hundred pounds British, and I will be answerable for its forthcoming, I mean including the Two hundred mentioned in M^r. Marriott's Letter to you, and which sum in addition to the outstanding subscriptions, and what may yet come in, exclusive of all expenses, will more than come up to your Original Expectations for the erection of the Church, so that so far providence has enabled me to fulfil even more than my engagements to Ohio.

2^d I have agreed for the ~~sale of~~ the disposable part of the College Lands at the stated price of One pound British per acre in the Event of your returning such satisfactory answers to the "Queries" forwarded to you long since through M^r. Marriott as shall warrant the intended Emigrants in embarking on so serious a speculation, but which answers I regret to say have been so long delayed as to cause almost despair of not suspicion that a proper Title cannot be given for the legal security of the Property.

3^d I have succeeded in selling, to a highly respectable Gentleman your own farm at "Worthington" for the full amount for which it was advertised in the New York Papers, and in several of the periodical publications in this Country, the money is in Bank on the good faith of the statement which was put forth and can be drawn as soon as the proper Title Deeds are prepared for the satisfaction of the purchasing party, I regret to say that the unguarded wording of the advertisement alluded to has given the Public generally, to understand, here, as far as it has got publicity that the whole College Speculation has failed, a surmise which cannot but tend to damp the ardour of Friends and give Confirmation to the unfriendly views of Enemies.

4th A considerable quantity of valuable Books has been collected,

and shall be forwarded to New York for the College and Clerical Library
Library in Ohio, as well as for promoting the laudable object of Mr
Whiting in forwarding Sunday School instruction in your Diocese, as it
regards "settlers" in addition to those who have already left this County
for Ohio, since my return to Europe, several more are on the point of going,
and they would be accompanied by a much more influential and wealthy
"Band" had the required information been received, but I am sorry to be
obliged to state, that several who put themselves to considerable expense
in making preparations have entirely given up the project, among these
may be mentioned "Mr. Stokes" who really suffered the loss of his whole
Classical Establishment and is now obliged to begin the world anew, as
his friends gave him to understand, that it would be little short of Insanity
for him to proceed when such "Death-like silence" was observed, both as it
regarded his Communications and those of Mr. Marriott and Lord Kenyon,
who kindly copied out with his own hand, the strong recommendation of
Mr. Stokes from his Grace the Lord Archbishop of Dublin.

As to my own labours and frequent risques, and travels by Land
and water, I beg to refer to my "Journal" which has been regularly
kept since I left you, and Copies of which have been regularly furnished to
Mr. Marriott for the inspection of the Trustees, and that my Expenses have
been as moderate as could have been expected, under existing Circumstances,
will appear sufficiently plain, by Consulting the Statement itself, and
by adverting to Maps and Distances, relative to the places where I have been.

6th. That there was no occasion for certain Expressions in some
of Your Letters to Lord Kenyon and Mr. Marriott will be sufficiently shown
by adverting to "Mr. Marriott's Letter," and opinion, to whom you referred me in "all
Cases" and who thoroughly investigated from time to time the whole of the
Contemptible allegations of ignorant, prejudiced or disappointed enemies, and
also from Mr. Waldron's long Letter on the subject - as also from the kind
and marked reception which I received from the whole Bench of Prelates
and others of the most respectable and influential Classes in my native
County, and from the handsome and highly satisfactory "general testimonial"
which is now in the possession of Mr. Marriott in London and finally from
the Circumstance of the whole of my Proceedings meeting the full and perfect
approbation of those to whom you referred me since my Arrival in England.

That it was my desire not only to have remained in Ohio, when
there, but also to have returned to it before now, I appeal to my Letter of the
10th of October last and to which I have not as yet received any reply, and only
three things at present detain me just - You did not specify any time for my

return, but said that I was to remain as long as I could be of any use to the Cause "Second - as the way is now opened for greatly serving the Cause by remaining had I returned then that door would have been effectually closed perhaps for ever as to attempt a Third application through another Medium would be perfectly inadmissable finally - My own anxiety and the advice of my friends, that as you hinted in some of your "Letters" something like an objection to my occupancy of the Church, for which I am endeavouring to raise sufficient funds, it is reasonable that I should understand what situation or Church I am to occupy, and what probability there is of support, or whether the Communications which have been already forwarded, are considered sufficient to reestablish that good understanding between us which is essential to mutual Comfort as well as the general promotion of the great object in view for so far I certainly consider myself the agrieved party.

Until therefore, I am favored with your full reply on each point here stated, I shall continue as I mentioned in a former Letter voluntarily to do my best for the promotion of your Good work, and in the event of its being your wish that I should still remain, it will be necessary that I should know the full extent of what "Lands" are to be disposed of, with explanatory maps of same together with all necessary information respecting Emigrants Titles &c. &c. as the present political Agitation in these Counties have induced many respectable persons, seriously to entertain the subject of departure to a less disturbed Country.

Hoping for your reply as soon as you conveniently can on each of the points mentioned in this Letter.

I am

Right Reverend & Dear Sir
very respectfully and faithfully &c.

P.S. Accompanying this I send again Copies of the printed "Report" a Copy of Mr. Marrott's last Letter lest the Original may not have reached you, together with the Letter from the English Trustees to the Irish Bishops and their Clergy, and which was written when I was last in London. Lord Kenyon is at present in deep affliction and which is not to be wondered at on account of the death of his amiable and truly lovely Daughter, as it regards your other friends I believe they are generally well, and have evinced no proof of "being given to Change"