

8-29-1831

Letter to C.W. Fitch

B.B. Smith

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From E. W. Fitch, 1908

B. D. Smith
K. Ch. 310829

Lexington August 29th 1831

Thy: and very dear Brother

Deeply - deeply indeed do I feel for you under the pressure of the first knot of troubles that you have got into. Every expression of your letter betrays a sense of friendlessness in which I well know how to sympathize with you. No words of mine can soothe this anguish, while it lasts. Nor do I feel over anxious to do so, inasmuch as I am quite certain it will do you good. Still, I beg to remind you that storm do not last always, and less than a year hence, it is more than probable that you will ~~will~~ look back upon the trials of this period, with pensive thankfulness. And again, I reiterate the entreaty that you will visit us, singly in our dear society here in Lexington, and recruit your spirits before you go east.

My time is short, and as I wrote you a long letter very lately, I hasten to the special object you had in view. I do not remember matters with all the minuteness specified in the extract of your letter which was written at the time. But I do most perfectly recollect that you stoutly & steadily refused to accept the Professorship, until the Bishop had most explicitly engaged to provide you a house as comfortable as that occupied by Professor Sharrow, & wholly separate from the College edifice as soon as possible. And even, meantime, if I recollect you were not even to take your family at all, into the college building

but to board with Professor Sharrow, or to have a room some-
what remote from common, even if you lived there pro: tem.
I thought of writing the above in the form of a certificate, to
be used at your discretion. But it occurred to me that
it might raise the suspicion that I had taken sides
with you against the Bishop. But still, you are at
perfect liberty to use my name, if in the least needed
to fortify the truth of your statements, and to read
to any persons you please the part of this letter
which I have underlined.

May the Lord deliver you out of all your troubles and
yet rear up at Kenyon a great & useful institution
to the glory of his name.

Affectionately Yours &c

B. B. Smith

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The Rev. G. W. Fitch,
Gambier, Ohio

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