

Stratford Oct. 21. 1834. Tuesday -

My Rev. & Dear Sir,

Yours of the 6th Inst. was duly & gladly received. I congratulate you on your success during your fortnight's exertions to do for your College. Truly your Episcopalianism of the South, have some of the spirit which Dr. Beecher finds at the North, among those of his denomination - I am confident, that with your enterprise, and views as to what a President of a College should be and do, you will always be successful in carrying forward the true interests of the institution, over which you preside "Labor vincit omnia." - I was not aware that your elections were attended with such demoralizing effects, and that place was so much the purchase of those who aspire to office & power. Your predictions concerning the result of the Baltimore election I am rejoiced to learn is verified. But from all that I am able to learn of the actual condition of the whole country, I have given up all hope of there being any change in the policy of our government. At present or even at all till we have a revolution complete, & perhaps upon the ruins of our republic, a monarchy is established - And further, patriotism on both sides of the great question I believe, is gone, and a sordid hunting & fighting for "the spoils of victory" has so taken its place, that I begin to think the sooner we can get settled under so mild a government as England has, with the exception of that unhallowed yoking on of Church to State the better. Why, I sometimes think I could raise my voice as loud as the loudest, to shout "God save the King." You have seen that even in old Gen. which triumphed so gloriously last spring, there is an indifference or want of interest in the subject of time & politics - O tempora o mores! But enough, seeing the present let the south, & even America rejoice, though clouds and darkness be round about him who governs governments, we still know that justice & judgment, are the habitation of his throne.

exciting, brought before us, if I except one. We made Dr. Kemper the Secretary of Convention, in the place of Mr. Jarvis who was absent owing to ill health. We chose Drs. Groswell, Wheaton & Kemper, & Rev. Messrs. Jarvis & Hull our Standing Committee. For members of the Gen. Convention we elected on the part of the clergy Dr. Groswell, Mr. Pyne, Mr. A. Todd & Dr. Wheaton. The Sermons on the occasion were but three Gen. Sermons, by Rev. Mr. A. Curtis of Wallingford. Before the Christian Knowledge Society by Rev. Abner Morgan. On Wednesday evening after the Con. adjourned, Rev. Mr. P

ed - You know just how dull and formal all our State Conventions are: And that if we would but take our old journals, & alter their date, it would answer as well from year to year as to publish new ones. However, I did contrive to make up a little spirit in the introduction of a resolution upon the subject of temperance, & was successful, & unsuccessful at the same time. It was only a recommendatory resolution, approving of temperance efforts, & calling on the members & friends of the Church in the diocese to give to them their influence & coöperation. After a little discussion the previous question was moved by Mr. Pyne, & called again by Dr. Groswell. This was sustained by 56 against 16. The object was, unanimously to put down the mootings of the question. However it came up again by a motion to strike all droppings in relation to it from the minutes of the Con. After some words on both sides, it was resolved that it should lie buried in oblivion. But the first blow is struck, and the wedge, though it has been pulled out, will be put in again, & next year (God willing) will show the old log opened to the core. That & all, must give way, & the Church in this diocese will become the expounders of temperance.

They have been the abettors of intemperance. The vault thrown over this transaction was made of gases, & bright eyes have penetrated it, and the birds of the air are now carrying a report of it far & near, & those who opposed it, will probably have the chance to give the public their weighty reasons for putting it down, on the true Jackson principle, by calling & sustaining the

the unions question. However, we closed our con. in good will & love towards each other; & now though we may differ upon this subject, for myself, I can say, I love those who voted against it, as well as those who were with me. I do not believe that any difference of opinion on such, & even on graver subjects should have any effect in estranging brethren from each other. We are none of us inflexible, & should always remember this - I should think upon this point that the Church was never more prosperous in our State than at present. We have, not far from 70 clergymen. My own congregation was never more prospered than now, and has been able to do for other than ourselves, to an amount not surpassed by more than two parishes in this State, since the last convention. (2 years & 4 months ago)

You know what a changing race we Episcopal clergymen are; I mean in regard to place of residence. I am now one of the oldest settled ministers in the Diocese, there being but a very few who have remained in one place so long, as I have been in Stratford. And I sometimes think it would be well for me to be off, & again conclude, no I will stay, while I see my labors blessed & my people satisfied with my humble ministrations.

You are miserably off in Maryland for Bishop, and I exactly agree with you that it would have been infinitely better to have had either Dr. Wyatt or Johns. This compromising is a stupid affair, & taking one between, to suit hostile parties! A man that is on no side, is a disgrace to either or to both with whom he will more or less agree. It is a mark of a weak mind & as weak a faith to be undecided on the great questions which you agitated in the land, when you were chosen Bishop. I should not

perhaps all his views, I wish he were younger, exposed to believe him more fitted for it than was his very amiable & pious opponent. I like Dr. Johns as a man & as a minister. I should prefer Dr. Wyatt as a Bishop. You mentioned that the Dr. without an assistant, on account of Goddard's having left him. I so young & so able to live on a small salary, & like Baltimore, that if there were the only qualifications for that office, I do not think I should not do for it myself, if the Dr. could get along with

so high a Churchman as I, and such a p^{er}severent advocate of the
temperance cause, and the people of St Pauls could be persuaded
to believe that I could do with my plain country manners & country
talk! But there are so many ifs & ands in the way, that we might
as well conclude, by saying, that "when the sky falls, we shall catch
larks!"

Our clergy are in good health generally. Rev.
Mr. Keyes assistant to Dr. Groswell, although he flatters himself
he is on the recovery, will not probably meet us again in the
councils of the Church. From what his physicians say of him, he will
ever another year have passed away ^{from} earth.

1839

Rev. Dr. Humphreys.
President of ~~Amherst~~ College.
Annapolis.
Maryland.

Ms. A. 9. 2. 1 -



Geo. F. Shepley

I saw Mr. Mott at the Con. He is
I have very much to say, but my paper is full. The Gen. The. 2.
at N. York was never so prosperous as now. It has risen in my esteem
very much of late. Washington College hangs by the eyelids, as I think
I wish it success. Mr. S. is in good health & writes with me in regard
to you, & best wishes for the prosperity of you & yours. I am your aff. friend &c
Rev. Dr. Humphreys. George C. Shepley