

Dear & Revd Sir
I trust that your kindness will
receive the apologies which I have to offer for
my apparent neglect of your very amiable &
obliging communications. - At the same time
nearly a letter was addressed by Mr. Blanchard
to a young lady who lives with me requesting
to know the originator of the report, & denying
it. Fearful of the consequence of giving names
I replied that could Mr. B. wished it abtain
permission to give up the names of my informers
& also of those gentlemen who had stated that
Mr. B. had made such remarks to them. After
this I waited to hear again from Mr. B. -
before replying to your favor, & having
never heard from him, the whole business
passed together from my mind until accidentally
arranging the contents of my Portfolio, I found
your letter, & recollected with sincere regret
that you had every reason to think me
most reprehensibly negligent.

When better weather arrives &

Mr. Wright is settled in his new parish
if he has leisure & inclination to come so far
we should be happy to see him, & have
occasionally his advice & instruction, while
I must be candid in saying that I
consider my school as the spiritual charge of
an excellent friend Mr. Chesley, & that in a
peculiar sense, for nothing could be more
calculated to produce the happiest effects
upon my pupils than the truly pastoral &
parental care which that model of a
Country Clergyman bestows upon his little
flock.

Permit me dear Sir to express
the pleasure I feel in hearing of your
successful efforts to renovate the College,
& also to petition that you would sometimes
ride down, & assist us with your instructions

& allow me Dear Sir

to express the high respect

& esteem with which

I remain very truly

Yours obedt & obliged

Servt

Wm. Mercer

To the
Rev. Doctor Humphries.

President of

St. John's College.

Annapolis.

Wm. W. W. W.