

Wellbourne, April 29, 1850. —

My dear Bishop of Sydney,

Your letter of the 17th inst has placed me in a position of exceedingly great pain and perplexity. When I read your lordship at Albany I understood you to say, that you fully approved of Mr Russell being employed in this Diocese, provided that he withdrew his notice of an appeal to the Archbp of Canterbury. Accordingly I lost no time in making a communication to him to that effect; and shortly afterwards received from him an expression of his perfect readiness to withdraw his notice of appeal immediately. He asked me in that manner he should do this; and I told him that he had better address a letter to your lordship summarily upon the subject: but, upon his saying that your lordship had expressly declared that you would not receive any letter from him, I advised him to write to your lordship's Registrar, to inform you of his wish. I told him, that he had better confine himself

Yours truly

The Lord Bishop of Sydney.

to the withdrawal of his notice², and leave me to commu-
nicate with your Lordship upon all other matters: but I
suggested to him the propriety of expressing his sorrow
at having subjected himself to your Lordship's censure;
and of declaring his contrition for any faults which he
might have committed against your Lordship, or
against his brethren. You had not expressed your
desire, that he should make any apology previously
to his reception into my Diocese; but I felt, that he
ought to avail himself of what would be his last oppor-
tunity of professing his penitence in general terms,
such as no Christian man could have any hesitation
to use. - I did not wish him to do more than this:
because I knew, from his previous statements, that
he strongly denied being actuated by the motives which
had been imputed to him; and that therefore any
specific apology, which he could make, would be unse-
atisfactory. I hoped however, that, ~~since~~ ^{as} he was about to
leave your Lordship's Diocese, a general profession
of contrition, as it would be becoming in him, &
likewise would not be displeasing to your Lordship.
Upon parting from me, he said that he would act

in accordance with my advice; and his letter, of which your
friendship has furnished me with a copy, is in fact sub-
stantially what I suggested to him. -

After these communications with your friendship
and Mr. Ruffels, I considered the matter to be settled;
and took for granted, that your answer to my letter
would convey the confirmation of your verbal approval
(as I understood your friendship at Albany) of his being
employed in this Diocese. - I did not hesitate therefore
to state to the settlers upon the banner my intention
of placing him in charge of that district; telling them
at the same time, that it was with your friendship's
entire concurrence. - I have also written to the Secy
of the A. P. G. to the same effect. - Perhaps I have been
too hasty; but, as I have already said, I regarded the matter
as settled.

You will easily conceive therefore the concern, which
your letter has caused me. - With respect to the form
in which Mr. R. should withdraw his notice of appeal,
there can be ~~not~~ no difficulty. - If your friendship will
direct your Secy to furnish me with the necessary in-
structions, I will take care that they shall be strictly
complied with. - But I do not feel, that I ought to require

Mr R. to make ⁴any further apology for his past conduct
previously to his receiving his appointment from me.
I should indeed be exceedingly sorry to appear to sanction
that conduct; and it is for the purpose of guarding against
any inference of that sort, that I am anxious to obtain
your Lordship's express concurrence in his employment
here. But he is to be considered, I think, as having suffered
the punishment of his offences by his temporary sus-
pension from the Ministry, and by the final revocation
of his license by your Lordship. The position which he
will occupy here will be very different from that, which
he occupied in Sydney; and in employing him at all,
I shall simply give him an opportunity of recovering
his character, and approving himself henceforth as
more wise and temperate, as well as a ~~faithful~~ faithful
and zealous, servant of his Divine Master. My hope is,
that calm reflection upon the past may teach him to
cultivate the virtues of humility, and meekness,
wherein he appears to have been most deficient.

You see then, My Dear Bishop of Sydney, that I
have so far committed myself as to be unable, with
propriety, to draw back. I trust therefore, that you
will not refuse to confirm my statements of having

received your approval in the step, which I have taken.
I am quite willing to incur all the responsibility of my
own act, but I wish to avoid the appearance of placing
myself in opposition to you... On this account I am anxious
to have your authority for stating publicly, that, although
you have been under the necessity of revoking Mr. R's licence
in your own House, you do not object to his receiving
a licence in mine... It is a matter of indifference to
me, whether this authority is given me by ~~a~~ formal
document, such as a "Licentia Migrare", or in any other
manner which your Lordship may think best... I shall
however be obliged by receiving it with a little delay as
possible: for I am very anxious, that Mr. Russell
should enter upon his duties before the winter sets
in. -

With respect to Mr. Beamanish; I should be extremely
glad, if it were possible for me to employ him also.
for I am in great want of a clergyman to take charge
of a large parish in the neighbourhood of the River
Ouse; where a parsonage is already prepared, but I
have no one to put into it. - The locality is exactly such
as your Lordship recommends: for it is at the opposite
end of the district, which I propose to join

to Mr Russell. - I have refrained however from holding out
any hope to him, until I should be assured, that it
would not be disagreeable to your Lordship. It seems a
serious thing, that he should be shut out from the exercise
of the Ministry, both at home and in the Colonies, on account
of offences; which, great as they certainly have been, appear
~~to~~ rather faults of temper, than sins of unfaithfulness
in his Ministry, or immorality in his life. - If therefore
your Lordship would say, that you did not object to my
receiving him, I would not hesitate to give him
a fair trial also. - I am inclined to think, that, while
you are very glad to get rid of them, you would be rather
pleased to know, that they were not altogether
outcasts. - In this case, as in that of Mr Russell, the statement
of your entire concurrence would sufficiently guard
against any misrepresentation of my conduct. - I do
not however wish to urge my request on behalf of Mr
Beaumont: for, although it would be extremely convenient
for me to employ him, and I should be willing to run the
risk of his ultimately turning out ill, yet I am not pledged
to him in the same manner that I am to Mr Russell. -
That the great Head of the Church may direct, and bless, your
Lordship in all things is the prayer of your faithful
Loyalist Brother in the Lord,
C. Melbourne.