Hagers Town Oct. 29. 1845.

To the Vestry of Christ Church, and other seperated members of St. John's Parish

Dear Brethren

In enclosing to you the inclosed copy of the action of the Vestry of this parish, I desire to avail myself of the opportunity thus presented, to express to you freely and fully my own feelings in the premises.

In the controversy which have arisen between us, it is not surprising that you should have misapprehended in some instances, the motives by which I was actuated, and the spirit which controlled my conduct. No one can feel more deep regret than myself, at the prevalence of whatever has tended to produce unkind feeling, and mutual jealousies. Sure I am that in every thing in which my individual influence has been exerted, I have been conscious of no motives other than the sincere desire to do what seemed to be my duty. If however in any thing that has been said or done by me, there has appeared in the judgment of any or all of you, a disposition to exercise an undue authority, or to use the legitimate powers of my office in a harsh, unkind or overbearing manner. I do not hesitate to express my sincere and hearty regret. Certainly, it was never my design, under any circumstances, thus to act, or to have

been to disregard the rights and feelings of others. In many particulars, connected with our past differences much of what has been offensive to both parties, had its origin I am persuaded in mutual misapprehensions and misunderstandings. I cannot believe that on your part as I am sure is the case on my own, there has been any wanton disregard, or even willing disposition to act harshly or unkindly.

It is not necessary for us to enter into any review of all our difficulties, they were painful enough in their original occurrence; let us not then rekindle those emotions by dwelling on the past. Rather let us seek to efface from our minds, the recollection of those events; or at least let us spread over them all, the mantle of Christian Charity.

Let it suffice that I merely recur for a moment to what was the original cause of disposition. The arrangement of the Chancel of the Church. With respect to this matter I have uniformly maintained, that no Principle is involved in this question, I regard it simply as a matter to be settled on grounds of taste, Comfort and convenience. The plan proposed by me, was recommended and urged because of what appeared to me its advantages in all these particulars, and the opposition which was at first made to it, I was led to believe arose entirely from an idea founded in error, that great and important doctrinal question depended upon it. Before the final adoption of the present arrangement I separately sought to learn the view of the subject held