To His Excellency

The President of the U. S.:

Dear Sir:

The enclosed letter respecting the case of the Rev. Mr. Handy has just been forwarded to me by the Rev. W. H. Bell, D. D., formerly editor of "The Presbyterian Herald," who resides near Louisville, Ky. He is one of the most worthy and able ministers in the Old School Presbyterian Church. In his letter to me enclosed with Mr. McBrown's letter he says, "Handy, you know to be a most worthy man and minister of Christ, and so far as I have been able to learn the facts of the case he has been guilty of no breach of law human or divine. At least he claims that such is the case, and he ought either to be punished more severely if guilty, or acquitted if innocent. The case of his daughter is a very sad one indeed, and calls for the deepest sympathy and most earnest efforts of his friends for its alleviation."
A friend informs me that she sits and weeps day and night, and calls upon him to return, and goes to the door a thousand times a day to look for his return."

I have no acquaintance with the Rev. Mr. Handy, and I know nothing about his guilt or innocence. But the Rev. Mr. McBrown's letter and these statements of the Rev. Dr. Hill having been put into my hands, I simply comply with their wishes in putting you in possession of them.

Hoping that God the Giver of Wisdom to them that ask Him, may guide your right in this matter and in all the important matters which are constantly demanding your attention,

I am truly your friend,

P. D. Guerley.
Rev. P. D. Curley, S.S.

encloses a letter from Rev. Dr. Hill relative to the long imprisonment of Rev. Dr. Hickey at Fort Delaware without a trial.

Respectfully referred by the President to the Judge Advocate General for an early report.

John Hay

Oct 25, 1863.

[Signature]

Ret. by request as Hickey has been exchanged.

Oct 27, 1863.