Washington, March 30th, 1864.

His Excellency,
A. Lincoln,

Dear Sir:

According to your suggestion to Dr. Bachus and myself, I enclose you a slip containing what seems to be an official statement of the proceedings in the Rev. Dr. Armstrong's case. It is taken from the New Regime, Gen'l Butler's Official Organ in Norfolk. If this presents the whole case, it seems to me Dr. Armstrong ought to be released. No doubt he is in thorough sympathy with the South, as decided a rebel at heart as any member of the rebel Cabinet; but having taken the oath of allegiance under a promise of protection if he did so, and having so far as appears said nothing, done nothing in violation of his oath, is he not fairly entitled to the protection promised him even though...
he thinks Jeff. Davis the greatest patriot in the world and the Southern Confederacy the grandest and most benevolent government ever established by mortals.

Pardon me, Mr. President, for saying that I think the business of supplying churches with pastors, which the War Department seems disposed to undertake, will not only be very difficult and troublesome, but rather injurious than beneficial to the Government.

Yours truly,

P. D. Hurley.

P.S. I enclose with this a letter from one of Dr. Armstrong's friends which I received since Dr. Bacheus and myself called to see you.

P. D. G.
His Excellency,
A. Lincoln,
President of the U. States.

From Dr. Gurley, respecting Dr. Armstrong.