

Mr. George W. Seale.

Sir!

We received yesterday thro' the hands of Rev Francis Seale
\$ 200 of you, but know not on what account, & are in the same
ignorance concerning the ~~several~~ ^{all the} late payments you made us.
We ^{will} ~~would~~ thank you always to inform us on what account you
you received ^{all} the money you forward us as thereby we will be better
enabled to know how we stand.

As soon as you can conveniently, we ^{would} be much obliged to you
to remember ^{the} ~~our~~ promise you make us (^{in your letter of}) to
to draw off from your books an exact Statement of our Affairs
both as to what ^{you} have received, on what account, as likewise
what now remains due. ^{Do not think Sir, that this request}
is made from diffidence in you, nor indeed for we had reliance
estimate of our expectations - on means making of living - and finding
ourselves extremely embarrassed - may - probably obliged to report to extraordinary
measures - We must first come to an exact knowledge of all our Circumstances
account of Affairs not expecting you to visit us, at least not
until next Spring. - Be pleased also to inform us what money
it is probable you may collect for us from now, until the next
2^d April. -

TO THE FRIENDS OF RELIGIOUS FEMALE INSTITUTIONS

To the Friends of Religious Female Institutions.

MONASTERY OF THE VISITATION, GEORGETOWN, D. C.

THE professed object of the order of the Visitation of St. Mary, instituted in this town, is, not only to promote the sanctification of its own members, but by fervent supplications in behalf of all, and by a watchful care over the education of its female pensioners, to aid to the sanctification of society at large. Besides the young Ladies Academy, and the admission into the house of helpless Orphans, some of whom are maintained entirely *gratis*, others only obliged to defray their necessary expenses, it has opened a day school for the tuition of poor children, and has in contemplation to offer an asylum to such Ladies as would wish to retire from the world, either for the remainder of their lives, or for a limited time.

To compass these great and useful ends of their institute, the Sisters of the Visitation, notwithstanding their utmost endeavours, have been barely able to raise necessary buildings for themselves, for their Academy and for the school, on account of which they are yet in debt. Many things are still desirable, nay requisite, for the support and permanence of their establishment: nothing however so much as the erection of a Conventual Church or Chapel, where Divine service may be performed, and to which not only the domestics of the house, but the public at large may have access.

From such an erection, many spiritual advantages would doubtless redound to the Catholics of Georgetown and its vicinity, and to occasional visitors who might desire and receive edification and profit, in hearing the prayers of these devoted Ladies and of their pupils. Their object and profession would not then be mistaken, nor would their usefulness be doubted: God would be glorified by the spectacle of so numerous an assemblage of generous females, who entertain no thoughts but those perfectly compatible with their desire of Heaven, and who live more happy on earth under the restrictions and privations to which they have voluntarily subjected themselves, than if they were passively to spend their days in the midst of those enjoyments which now they have renounced.

But although the Sisters of the Visitation scarcely wish any thing for themselves, they long after being able to render to their God a suitable worship, or such as their rule and mode of life prescribe; and as their scanty means do not suffice to build a Chapel, however simple, they have recourse to the charity and liberality of their friends, and of those whom Religion would inspire to sympathise with the sex, particularly when employed in and devoted to works of so laudable purport.

Some persons engaged in the world, and reluctantly distracted by their necessary employments from paying to the Almighty all those homages and adorations which they would wish to pay, may possibly be pleased and find some relief in helping the devotions of others, and participating in their good works. Either the construction of a Conventual Chapel, or the completion of the Monastery, or the support and tuition of many poor girls, or a decent and peaceable retreat to old or infirm Ladies or tired with the world, would assuredly tend to the advantage of the present and of future generations; and those who will contribute to such laudable purposes, besides the interior satisfaction of having done a durable good, will command the perpetual remembrance of this religious community.

Induced by these cogent motives, our recluse Sisters who cannot themselves, as some others do, go abroad and beg assistance, address the present to those who may be pleased to hear of their institution, and disposed to help them in their generous and determined pursuits: they have no doubt that all the Catholic Pastors through the United States will favour them.

Any gifts, bequests and donations for the above purposes, may be addressed to the Reverend Mother Superior, or to any named Individual of the Monastery in Georgetown, D. C.; or to the Reverend J. P. de Cloriviere, director of the institution; or to its head the most Reverend Ambrose Marechal, Archbishop of Baltimore.

D. L.

*Copy of a letter to
g. W. Moore*