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Post office Feb. 13. 1872

U. Rev. E. John Genl. C. S. C.,

U. Rev. Father,

I received your last long communication concerning your new project. I am glad you do not ask my advice, ~~and~~ in my present situation I could not give it. As administrator, I do briefly what I cannot help doing, and I go no further. Your undertaking is something so important for the present and future, that though I would be bishop, I would not go one step without consulting Rome. You need something of the kind in your establishment; with the grace of God it may work well; but a special assistance of God is necessary to establish it, and to keep it working in harmony.

I wish you all success in
this, as in every thing else; Still
I obtain from all advice concerning
it,

You are a wicked father, you
have placed me in a terrible
predicament with the bishops of
Rochester. It is concerning that
point, you met in Wisbeche,
and you wanted me to receive in
the diocese of Exeter. He
had written to me before you did,
I had written to the bishops of
Rochester to know his intentions
when I had received the letters of
the bishops, I wrote to the first
simply, that I had not place for
him in the diocese of Exeter,
and it was true. But when you
wrote to me I let you know
the answer of the bishops of
Rochester. Now here is your

guilt, and you must certainly
atone for it. You saw that priest
again after you had received
my communication, and you
let him know what the bishops
of Rochester had said concerning
him. This is not fair, it is
not-precident, and if you feel
like atoning - for your transgression,
you will write to the bishops
of Rochester that the indiscretion
committed did not proceed from
me, but from yourself.

on this condition, I will
grant you full pardon and
absolution, and I will remain
your devoted friend forever

St. Benoit

Adm.