

Lalaco May 26th 1854

Rev. & dear friend,

I acknowledge the receipt of two of your late favors. The object of the first was no doubt for the benefit of your institutions, in the Lalaco Co. I have another object in view. It is to donate whatever my means can afford for the education of poor boys who show any signs of vocation for the ministry, and whose parents may be too poor to educate them. No matter what donations you may receive your bills would be the same. None could enter unless he paid. It is so with the Jesuits too. Your vows of poverty include this kind of charity. If you tell me the lowest possible sum you will take for two students for the next twenty years I may close the contract with you. You need not expect any thing from me otherwise. As I do not know how many may go from Lalaco to South Bend I cannot say how many tickets you would require.

As regards Denis Foley, I do not know
what to say. If he wants to study Law,
which is his intention I think, he is better
begin at the close of this session. If he
wants to be a priest he certainly should
remain a matter year. I hope he will not
be foolish enough to think that he can
graduate this year. I would not think that he
would be vain enough to look for honors
that he does merit. I told him plainly that
no College would be justified in conferring
degrees on him. He thought he is a scholar.
I think he is a very poor one. He might
have done a great deal better than he
did for the last two years. I do not say
this to hurt his feelings, but I cannot flatter
him and make him think that he is
what he is not. He has talent enough, but
he does take the right course to develop it.
He was badly trained up in the beginning.

Please give my respects to the Rev. Father
Mr. Sean Denis Foley & the boys.

Yours with sincere regard

Philip Foley

P. S. I was absent when your first letter
reached Toledo. Whenever I would give attention