

J. M. J.

Philadelphia June 5. 1856

Very Res^d & Dear Sir

One of my most zealous Friends, the Very Rev. John Vine O'Reilly V. G. has opened a College in his district (Punahanna Co. Penn^a) about two years ago - & this last year he has built again a very fine house about a quarter of a mile from the College, which he destined for a female Academy. Both of these Institutions are free from debt as well as the 6 or 7 acres of Land which are attached to them.

The College has at present 40 Boarders, though they had only 20 when they started & there is no doubt but that in a short time this number will increase rapidly - The Erie R. R. running between Buffalo & N. Y. City passes within 12 miles - the Country round is very healthy, very much settled - The female Academy is not opened yet.

Both of these institutions the Very Rev. O'Reilly would very cheerfully offer to your Community, without any charge or condition, except that you establish a branch of your Order there. There are in the same County four other Churches built & paid, & a fifth one is building next to the College, which Churches I myself would very cheerfully consent to the spiritual care of

Your Community Three of these Churches are within
a few miles from the College. These Congregations
are exclusively Irish, & much respected in
the County for their regularity & liberality.

I for my part, have not only approved of
his pious disposition, but I wish from the
very bottom of my heart, You would accept
of the offer.

If V. R. should wish to visit the place
before taking further steps - You can reach it
either from Dunkirk or Buffalo by the New-
York & Erie R.R. leaving the Cars at the
"Great-Bend" where the Stage will bring
You to St. Joseph's College. I will be myself
in Susquehanna Co. in the beginning of July. on
Visitation.

Recommending myself to Your prayers, I remain
with sincere esteem

Yours truly in X^p
+ J. M. Newman
Bp of Phil^a

Very Rev. E. Sorin S. S. C.