

San Juan P. R. Oct. 18. 1909

Dear Bishop -

I have conferred with Mrs. Edson upon your proposition of the 16th inst, and we have given it most earnest consideration. In neither of my requests to the Board for financial relief have I contemplated withdrawing from the work here, nor have I any desire to do so at this time for the work committed to me is prospering. Your proposal contemplates our surrendering our "living" - the entire support of a family of four persons with nothing immediately in view, for there is no telling how long I would be without a parish; it means the relinquishment of an income of \$1,600. per year.

The items of expense involved in a return to the U. S. at this season of the year would be as follows - observe that the return is not to Wisconsin whence the Board called us to this work, but to Rochester N.Y. which will cost much less than to Wis.

For winter clothing for myself 60.	} \$ 19 2.	} Packing goods Cartage etc 20. Amalgam etc 76. Total 96.
" " " " Mrs E - 45.		
" " " " Miss Alice - 42.		
" " " " Carl 45.		
S. S. fares by passage to N.Y.C. - 160.	} 288.	}
Incidental etc 8.		
N.Y. fares to N.Y.C. & back (750) 30.		
Meals in route - - - 10.		
For freight on N.Y. Goods to N.Y.C. 50. N.Y.C. to Rock. 30. 80.		
	576	

Your proposition contains the suggestion of a continuation of salary for three months after resignation ~~would~~ take effect $(3 \times 133.33) = 400.$ less 1 cr. Total
 $192 + 288. + 400. = \overset{192}{\underset{480}{880.}} - 96 = \underline{784.}$

As soon as we arrived in Rich. we will be obliged to rent a house; then set about "finding a parish". Now, a clergyman seeking a parish is in a very different class than a clergyman sought by a parish. It may take a long time to find a parish, and the undertaking is very distasteful to me. I, therefore, think it will only be fair that instead of "three months pay" the Board should agree to pay my salary until I find a parish which will afford me a living at least as good as I now have, or for a period not to exceed one year. Any compensation that I may receive for "supply work" etc during that time to be deducted from the salary paid by the Board. It should also be considered that I may be obliged to take work in a distant Diocese or Jurisdiction which would mean again "breaking up the home" and journeying thither at large expense. There is also the danger that my efforts in seeking a parish will be misunderstood in view of the fact that I will be leaving P.R. after only 18 months service. Therefore there must be a letter testifying to the fact that the clergyman

has been brought about by because of the
insufficiency of the salary for me here,
This letter may be from either the Dip of
the Jurisdiction or from the Board.

An alternative proposal: I will accept \$1,500. cash
in hand here, pay our expenses journey - etc - etc.
and relinquish all claim upon the Board.
with reference to my work here. This sum
\$1,500. to be accompanied by the letter testimonial
above referred to. May God guide us all.

Very truly yours
E. H. Edson

At. Rev. J. W. Van. Rensselaer, D.D.
Rt. P. R.