

THE BOARD OF MISSIONS
PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH
JUN 21 1918
A. R. GRAY
281 4TH ST. N. YORK

P. O. BOX 1320
San Juan, Porto Rico

Dear Dr. Gray:

The "leviathan" which I proposed sending you cannot now be sent. Instead thereof I am under the painful necessity of telling you that in a recent conversation with Bishop Colmore I was informed that in his judgment I am a "misfit" in the position which I am trying to fill. Apparently there is nothing else against me; he said there was nothing else; but I am not getting hold of the people in the way he hoped to have me do, etc, etc.

This, of course, is nothing else but a polite dismissal. I am expected forthwith to resign and become one of a trio of priests of the Church who have been tried in this position and found wanting within the short space of four years.

There is no use in protesting; nor am I going to indulge in any recriminations; neither would be seemly. Besides when I accepted the appointment of the Board of Missions I understood the terms of agreement perfectly. The Bishop has the right to dismiss me from his employ, and neither my character nor standing as a priest of the Church will stand or fall by his action. I will simply take the medicine given me unpalatable though it may be. I can stand it, if the Church can.

I have now only to think of myself. When I came here I cut loose from everything and I have thought of nothing else for myself. I will not speak of the sacrifices made and the obligations incurred which I will find difficult

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to make good. Unless the Board can use me in another field, as for instance Liberia or any place where priests are wanted, which seems unlikely after the failure which ^I have apparently been in Porto Rico, I will resign and seek for myself something else. I am expecting to leave here as soon as I can dispose of my household furniture and get my remaining effects packed. And as soon as possible in July I will set sail for New York where I hope to see you and talk the matter out with you.

Concerning the work which I am leaving let me say just this much. For God's sake and in mercy to the priests who may be inclined to come to this District, do n't send any more to St. John's with the impression that their job is to ^{be} permanent. Let them come for three or six months to see whether they will like it, or what is more important, to see whether the Bishop will like them. It will be less expensive in the long run both of the Church's money and the feelings and reputations of good men.

Hoping to hear from you as soon as possible, I beg to remain

Yours very faithfully,

George V. Dickey

June 11, 1918

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