

Washington, Oct. 5. 1861.



To His Excellency, Abraham Lincoln,  
President of the United States,

Dear Sir:

As you were kind enough to refer the matter of a ~~the~~ appointment of a third chaplain for the hospitals in this District & vicinity to me, I take the liberty of saying, that it seems to me highly important that a chaplain should be appointed for the benefit of the sick and wounded in Alexandria. More than two hundred are in the hospitals there, and there is no minister of the gospel to visit them and minister to their wants. I hope, therefore, you will appoint the Rev. Mr. Hopkins to that service, giving him the same kind of commission which you gave to Messrs. Goff and Butler. Of his qualifications for such a service

there can be no doubt. His heart is in the work.  
As you are probably already aware, he is a son  
of the Rev. Mark Hopkins, D. D., the gifted and  
well-known President of Williams College. Most  
earnestly & heartily do I commend him to  
your confidence.

Yours respectfully,

P. D. Gurley.