

Philander Chase Letters

11-5-1796

Letter to Parents: Dudley and Alice Chase

Philander Chase

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Albany November 5th 1796
K. Ch. 96405

Dear & Hon'd Father

My god success in getting into business, my present prosperous circumstances & my pleasing hopes for the future, I know must fill your heart with gratitude to that Being who governs all things equally as they do my own - To think otherwise would give me pain. Indeed my comfort and pleasure would be but half so pure & perfect, were it not that I am confident, my dear friends participate in my prosperity.

Although my income is amply sufficient to maintain me in genteel circumstances - yet my expenses are greater than I can reasonably wish them. To board out at 4 dol. per week and to find all my washing & mending &c done before any - great my expenses to an unnecessary height. The good Mr. Ogden called on me on his way from N York to Troy - He entered into my affairs with that same warm and tender friendship which you know he is ever ready to exercise towards all whom he thinks he can serve. He was much surpris'd that I should pretend board out at this expensive rate when I might keep house for my self with half the money. "If you (said he) had 100 dol. on hand you might save too by the expiration of the year, by purchasing furniture and living for yourself." I have pursued this hint still further. There is a gen

Man now boarding and rooming with me, a teacher
of Trinity School in this City, who is also with his
present expensive way of living discontented.
He is a man of superior understanding & education
being an European and brought up in one of the
best colleges in that quarter of the world.
This friend and gentleman has offered to hire a
house and equally discharge the expense with
me living in a genteel, independent, and more
respectable manner than we possibly could do in a
boarding house. All this with half the expense
that we are now at. This plan, with the hearty
advise of Mr. Ogden & my other friends in this
place, I make no scruple to pronounce good.
If it is put into execution at least it will save me an
100 dol. at the end of the year. Now Sir would I
not persuade you to add to the money that I
was to receive from you, 55 or 60 Dollars? To furnish
the house with necessary and convenient articles
an 100 Dollars will be required. The money that
I sold my horse is almost expended, tho' with four
denne it will keep me a few week longer. Think
Sir how disagreeable it must be for me to pay for
these very little things that Mrs. Gage could
do as well as not, half money enough to
support a good table!

At the first of January I receive for my teaching
the school 200 dollars. This will help me then ⁱⁿ paying

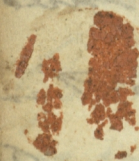
the debts that I shall ^{have} incurred between this and the time
of my beginning to keep house in furnishing and
titles of necessity & preparing for the next quarter
The Legislature of this State is expected for the time
to come to sit in this City. If this happens con-
sider my situation. Board will of consequence
rise still higher. What a fool I should be to
board out at 6 or 7 dollars per week when I
might as well as not have my own house &
by taking one or two boarders save myself from
any expense. Mr. Ogden is not so mindful
of this therefore he says with me. Pray Sir be
so kind as to send me an hundred dollars as soon
as you possibly be. I cannot but think to my
dear Father will oblige me in this one instance
as I have pushed forward so bare as to the want
of money - and as it may be as I im-
agined it will be the last time that I
shall be in that situation as to be obliged to ask
you for money. If you are prevailed upon to
do me this great kindness you can send the money in
a bank bill inclosed in a letter by the mail.
Write to Ogden at the same time that you have sent it be
I mentioned in my last respecting Mrs. Gages sending for some
money on the reason of my taking her and your dutiful boy Philander. Gage
If you have sent her any debt it out of the above sum

Philander to
his father in 1796
from Albany

Philadelphia to 1
November 1796

Dear
Friend

1796



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