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Letter to Dudley Chase

Philander Chase

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Poughkeepsie May 21st 1800

K. Ch. 00 05 21

Dear Dad—

It is really a strange thing that I have not rec^d one word from you—Have you forgotten that you had a Brother who loves you? Make the least of it. you have used me with great neglect. Dear B^d M^h, lovely scenes of my youthful peaks! Residences of my dearest friends—with what tender emotions does my heart glow when I think on your peaceful shades and rural walks!—where love and unrevered good humour sport unmolested by the glare of show or the pageantry of pride! My dear wife and myself have just left conversing on you & yours. Dudley's wit, Olive's drollery, and Mary's demureness all played alternately before our imaginations—“O were we but there for a few moments!” I sighed—“Vain wish” says my dear wife. “But we shall see them here next winter” we both spontaneously cried.

Dear Dad—We are as happy as this world can make us—our honey-moon never will end—Content, ease, and competence, these gems of so great price ~~and~~ much sought after and so seldom found sparkle on each board of our little family. Little Philander has grown the stoutest boy of his age that lives in the State of New York—You would hardly know him; his manly strength and activity astonish me—George might be dead for aught that I hear per you

How does the Rogue? Many is the time
that he has driven sleep from our eyelids.
Altho he is far from us. You will bring him
to his next winter. Dudley this time "next
winter" is marked with characters of dou-
ble emphasis in my calendar of futurity.
If I were possessed with the art of the
Egyptians to embalm & preserve all my
fruits & precious things to the age of a thou-
sand years, I would use my art to no fur-
ther extent than "dear next winter".

Then shall my cellar overflow with the
choicest wine and my table with the most
delicious fruits that I can procure.

As it respects this event time is now a
slow and pacing jade - then alas she will
be as fleet as the deer on the moun-
tains of Gilead.

Mrs C. my good wife has been sorely afflicted
with many complaints but thank God she
is now pretty well recovered. She loves you
and Olive, if possible better than I do.

My Church matters are in a prosperous train
as I could wish. - Every thing goes on charmingly.
- I am some times quite enthusiastic in my
preaching. - But I believe not more so than
my congregation in hearing. Last Sunday
in the face of every true Christian was the
brim-full eye of approbation - The Deist

bring down his head; - I was wrought
up to a pitch that seemed to whisper to
me that I was not in this terrestrial world
- A large Church is crowded every sun-
day. -

As to Political matters, they go against
us - The Anti's have prevailed in this
state. What's to say I can't say -
But I fear we shall have in consequence
of this present Election, an A Frenchman
for a President! if so the Lord have
mercy on us! - Never were more serious
times since this Country became inde-
pendent. - You are more safe in N.E. than
- Civil discord will tear us to pieces. -
Party runs exceedingly high. But we hope
for the best tho' with but small grounds.

Farewell dear Dudley -
Polley sends her love to Olive and you
I join her. - Give our loves to all the people
& Mr. Evans & Nancy - Kiss George ten
for his Mother & 50 times for his
Loving Father & your loving Mother.

L. Chase

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17
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