

1800

Letter to Dudley Chase

Philander Chase

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Dear Brother Dudley.

K.Ch. [001330]

It makes my heart glad that you have written to me at all; & much is this gladness augmented when I consider the manner of your writing. Your letter breathes the sentiments of the purest affection; which, like electrical fire, are no sooner read than they are communicated and reign in every part of my heart; you have at the same time an elegance of diction which pleases the understanding; and the whole man, heart and judgement are made to feel

hunc Laudendo. You speak of your health, prosperity and happiness; may God preserve them to you as long as you live; and, (which is the greatest blessing of all) may you be sensible of them. We lose half our comforts by being unmindful that we have them.

Your conclusion, that, because of the insufficiency of terrestrial enjoyments to confer complete happiness, therefore you are ready to give up the point and yield yourself to "sovereign apathy" does not seem altogether so just.

Shall I throw away my pence because they are not guineas? Shall I wish to annihilate all the streams and rivulets on the earth because they are not already seas for which perhaps I am seeking? - The pleasures and comforts of this world were not designed to make us completely happy, but to lead us to God the fountain of happiness. If we, then receive them as such they become real - or according as you have expressed it they do then and only then clothe themselves with reality, and we may be saved from the trouble of yielding ourselves to the cold embrace of unfeelingness.

What you say in answer to my account of Politics in this State, makes me laugh heartily. And I would heartily wish that it might all in reality end as easily. — But Brother it is too serious a subject to think that it will end in a laugh. No, brother within 5 years this country, we have too much reason to fear will be drenched in blood. Things may go on smoothly in your quarter and not excite alarm. But in this State the demon of discord stalks in in open day, and threatens serious and dreadful things. — True patriotism has made herself wings and flown away; the European contests are openly espoused and there seems a full determination to sacrifice this Country at ^{the} shrine of foreign ambition.

Your account of our dear little Boy George is above all things pleasing. At the reading of it we shed the tears of joy - such tears as bespoke fondness of the heart, the ardency of our souls in gratitude to heaven, and the kind of Brother that ever lived. Yrs dear Dudley Next Winter is doubly emphatical in our Calendar. If you fail to come, remember that you sink, in despondency two of the warmest hearts that ever throbbed with love to a Bro & Sister.

All things go on in the Church line exceedingly well. My heart and soul are engaged. Much I do already - much more do I intend to do.

an excellent purpose in this climate that you would do us
a great favour by fetching some down to us. We want all
kinds such as Bush & Pole Beans - early garden Peas - water
and Musk Melons, Beet Carrot, parsnip seeds. ~~The~~ Lucash pumpkin
and Cucumber seeds. A Northern Climate certainly improves the
germs in a peculiar manner for rapid vegetation, and that
with great luxuriance. Pray excuse our freedom - when you
come to us we will explain more and in return we will
furnish you with many rarities that will please you such
as, lions, Peach-pare & plum stones and all kinds of ~~the~~ ^{the} have
hol.
P. 6.

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Dudley Chase Esq^r
Randolph
Vermont

To be lodged at
Dunsmuir P.O. (sic)

Wilmington
Dougherty

Wilmington