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Letter to Dudley Chase

Philander Chase

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My dear Brother;

New Orleans Dec

K. Ch [0511/3]

You see by the date that I have arrived at the place for which I was soon to embark when I wrote to you from N York. Our passage was pleasant and shorter than is usual; excepting running a-ground on the Bahama banks from which we extricated ourselves without any damage, we met not with any accident. We were on board 24 or 25 days.

The Protestants in this City at whose request I came treat me with the greatest attention. They have already made me a call for life and offer a Salary of 2,000 Dollars and the use of a house. From Gov. Claiborne's communications to me together with the declarations of the other Regents of the University of Orleans I think the foundation of a future College will be placed under my care. But of this more hereafter.

I have concluded to tarry here till the 1st of May when, if it please God, ^{I shall} embark for N York. It will take me some time to arrange my business perhaps till the 1st of August; when you may expect again to see one who loves you beyond his power of expression. Dear Brother Dudley I have

how often have I thought of you, of your manifold instances of kindness to me. of the boy my dearest son you have in charge of your good wife & her tender care of him. how often have my prayers ascended to heaven for blessings on you all - God knoweth. The thoughts of what has past with expectations of what is to come crowd upon my mind and almost overcome me. Hardly can I suffer myself to believe that our next meeting in all human probability must be the last. - But there is another and a better ^{all} world. Great God! grant that we may ~~not~~ ^{all} meet there in peace.!!

This City is situated about 100 miles from ~~the~~ Mouth, on the North east side - is about one mile long $\frac{1}{3}$ of a mile wide has a good harbour capable of receiving ships of any size - has a good market well supplied especially with fish which are as fine as any in York; is increasing rapidly in merchandise and population and holds out prospects to the enterprising truly flattering. There is no American merchant that has been here in business more than 2 years but what is rich.

The Plantations up and down the River are allowed to be the finest and easiest to be cultivated of any in the world. The Fertility of the soil is inexhaustible and sugar can be raised with

one half the labor with which it is done in the
W. Indies, and of the finest quality. In short it is
an acknowledged fact that that property laid out
here in a plantation will net 25 per Cent, it
exclusive of every expense of the family of the
planter and every thing else -

This I was told by a man well acquainted
with the business and accurate calculator as
well as a man of the first respectability viz
Benj: Morgan the President of the New Or
leans Branch Bank -

A Sugar Plantation generally costs for the whole
apparatus from 60 to 70 thousands Dollars
the neat profits of which are 15,000. and 17,500.
per ann: Is not this (which is more certain than
any crop that grows) worth the while of a few of
our Yankees. Think of this dear Brother with
Brother Sherman or some one else & perhaps come
and see I am sure you'll never go to the North
again for the acquisition of wealth.

Do forgive this desultory letter I am in much
haste. Pray kiss my dear son and tell him
he must be a Good Boy, and his (now New Orleans)
Father will soon come and see him.

My love to your wife and all friends -
May God bless my dear Brother -
Dudley Chase Esq: Yours affectionately
Philander Chase

