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Letter to Dudley Chase

Philander Chase

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My dearly beloved Brother,

New Orleans Jan: 29. 10.
K.Ch. 100129

You will be surprised to learn that your kind letter of Nov: 25th. has lain by me almost two weeks unanswered; especially when I assure you that scarcely a day has elapsed without its being perused, either by Mr. Orr or myself. There is such candour, brotherly kindness, charity and genuine good sense, to be found in every line, that I peruse & re-peruse it, with never-ceasing delight.

I rejoice to find you were in the way to receive the little sums I sent you: though it causes me much regret to find mode of conveyance has proved so tardy. I fondly hoped, long ere your letter was dated, that the cash would have been in your hands: — But "better late than never." That you will apply it as I desire I never had any doubt: — for, if I may judge from my own heart, the wishes of a brother at such a distance assume too much the nature of "dying requests" to be neglected. All that disturbs my mind on this subject is that my Remittances are so small and so little adequate to the purposes for which they are designed. Yet considering the limited nature of my living and employment I hope good wishes and intentions will be taken as in part payment — and so with Heaven's blessing the thing may do. I allude now to the wants of my dear Son? & Daughter-in-law and his worthy family. Happy shall

shall I be to learn he has removed in the neighbour-
hood of your academy. Pray do urge it with all your might
— As long as I remain alive and am doing well in this coun-
try he may rely on the annual sum mentioned. And when
I remove to the Northward and realize my reasonable expect-
ations in having pupils confided to my charge, the same
stipend shall be continued. Jedediah is doing well. His let-
ters both in style & accuracy and German ship fully
answer my expectations. Perhaps something more
I shall transmit through your hands. Pray befriend
him; for on him under Providence will rest the support
of his Parents in their declining days.

It was another subject of great delight to me to learn
that Addison Smith & Calmon Cotton were with you.
My love to the dear fellows and may God speed & bless
them. Dear Father Christenden! How confident may
we be that his was the death of the righteous! It was
not sudden, for it was prepared for—he was ready—God
took him!

You see that I have mentioned my return to the North
as hypothetical. How shall I reconcile this with what
you have seen in letters to others that we are to leave
this in April or May next?... I believe the best way
will be to tell the story. The salary fell short & the
Church was not built, as was stipulated when I settled.
I could no longer bear it; and took my ground; to re-
turn in the Spring or stay here and see people doing
as they ought to do making general and effectual ex-
ortions in the building a house to the honor & worship
of the Great Being whom we serve. Nothing was done
and I advertised my removal in the form of proposals
for taking some pupils to the Northern States placing
myself and them by the side of one of our best Seminaries
and superintending their education. My plan was progress-
ing and no doubt was entertained by me that I should go
— till a few days ago the warden called on me and

to be sure that by means of the interference of the territorial Legislature, now in session, in granting a Lottery, they had a little out of the ful-
fillment of the conditions on which I had pro-
mised to stay ~~at~~ that a Church would be built.

If they be not mistaken in their expectations - I
am destined by my duty to remain here still
longer! - As to my own opinion relative to their
final success I can say nothing positive; but
can't help thinking, though perhaps led on
by my wishes, that I shall go - yes go in the
spring and ^{having} the unspeakable felicity of throwing
myself once more before my Parents knees for a
kiss and embracing my dear Brothers & Sisters.

My darling boys! and are ye neglected in this
picture of my future joys of hope? Wit-
ness the constant prayers which we offer
for your happiness: witness the tears

of joy which fell from our eyes on reading
the flattering account which your honoured Uncle
gives of your good conduct & progress in your studies.
Go on lovely Lads! and never cease to deserve the
character which you have obtained, by obedience
diligence and manly deportment.

Pardon this apostrophe, dear Brother! Par-
don a parent's fondness! - - -

The best love of my wife and self to your dear
Olive and to all who enquire after

Yours own loving brother

Dudley Chase Esq. Philander Chase

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Jan 4 2 9th
1810