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Letter to Philander Chase, Jr.

Philander Chase

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Worthington Ohio. June 6th 1818¹⁸

My dear Son Philander

It is my desire you w.
delay your journey hither till you hear from
me again. The reason of this request is, that I
expect, by divine permission, to be in the Atlantic
states this fall, myself, and no consideration can
make me forego the pleasure of your attendance on
me while there.

You may be surprised at this sudden alteration
of my mind in regard to the speed with which I de-
sired, you to hasten hither. But when I tell a plain
tale your surprise will cease.

You may recollect from the minutes of the
Convention of the Diocese of Ohio holden in Colum-
bus in Jan: last, (which minutes I sent you) that
of 1st Wed. in June (now four days ago) was the
time appointed for their next meeting. This ac-
cordingly took place in much greater number & of
a more respectability of character than was ever that
of. Contrary to all my expectations they determined at
this time to proceed to the Election of a Bishop; being
permitted so to do by permission in the 5th canon
of the Conf. Gen. Convention passed for this very purpose.
This determination they carried into effect and their
choice fell on you Father however unworthy &

Their Election being unanimous and every
thing conducted with great harmony and all along
improving grace & regard to my feelings; There seemed
in this as in most things relating to our infant
Church in the West the hand of a Fatherly Providence

The Election therefore was accepted on my part
and the same Draft which carries this letter will
carry with ~~it~~ the request of ~~the~~ ^{our} Standing Com-
mittee to that of all the Dissenters in the Unit. States
for their consent to my Consecration "during the
the recess of the Gen: Convention" according to the
5th Canon.

But such is the distance between this and
the Committee adressed as necessarily involves the
delay of two months at best and perhaps ten
or eleven weeks before I could, even with no other
impediments, start for the east.

About the 20th of Aug. however I hope to be
on my journey to see you. But where shall we
meet? I know not for neither the certainly nor
the time nor place of my consecration can be known
- But I advertise you of what is happening that you
may not set off for this thro' ignorance of my
designs and thus the pleasure of your company
at my stay in East and on my journey
hither be prevented.

Cyrus will in all probability accompany me
to Phila^a and perhaps return with us -
We shall have then to see the most interest-
ing returns My dear Son my dear Bros
the in-laws and my dear Nephew Whitfield
more.

If God should please to lay no im-
pediment to my Consecration could not
you prevail on Amos Dudley to permit Geo:

to attend me, and have him in readiness
for that purpose. And the thought strikes me
with peculiar delight if I could frame to speak
it to (him) would not Brother Dudley and some
Oliver be present? Oh how my poor af-
flicted heart would rejoice to see those who
loved my dear sainted Mary witnessing that
scene to prepare me for death. She would have
prayed so devoutly. — As it is — and be it as

it may — do dear Son pray for me your-
self — I need your prayers and those of all

who love me. You know I never be-
lieved much in professions of humility

told you know also that

I have not much room left

for them were I inclined to make

them. But I can ask you to be often on

your knees for me; that the Grace of God

may make me in some small degree

that I should be, a fit recipient of that

Holy Treasure of Apostolic Authority which

the Episcopal office implies

I shall address this at Cambridge — and

carelessly shall mention you to Prime Ward

and Secs in N.York. I wrote to your

Uncle Dudley Chase. So that some

way or other you will get the information

to effect the design — Your loving Father

Wm. Chase

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111 is born in this with us, and his family they
will continue to live in this house till they return
from the East. Then they'll go to a small town
which I am expecting them to my farm.

Worcester
6 June
Dr. Philander Chase
of the Senior Class
Harvard University
Cambridge
1761

you interesting letter. Mary is alive and I thank you good night
these good ones show the precious life I have seen. All the
kindness that ever was in my life is in this letter. I am
your son + I am a devoted son of the Father. I am
sure. I thank, better will have a lot of peace from this
one. May the good God who calls me fit to affliction
mercifully incline to help the dream which we make
the morning of this dear Black of you love and affection