

4-13-1817

Letter to George Chase

Dudley Chase

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Handsworth April 13th 1817

My dear George.

Since I came home I have been very busily engaged in Office-business, farming-concerns, receiving visits, telling stories and answering questions. I have scarce had a single moment to devote to letter-writing, except in case of business of the most pressing necessity. In all these affairs I have used the utmost despatch, & but about a finished a world of things. Yet hurry & trouble increased upon me, and there appears no end to the rush of this world. I live in hopes, notwithstanding, that in a month or two I shall get thro' with the storm that at present thickens around me, and all will be clear again.

Our family affairs are all in a good train; health and contentment have their abodes among us with as little & as few interruptions as could be expected. Your dear Aunt and her sister M^{rs} Blagden, living together under the same roof, you know, cannot be otherwise than contented; and if the three little braves, William Samuel & the well understanding thing, one but well & playful, they are sure to be happy. Mary is ever cheerful & good natured, Bet your & Eliza, Olivia Benjamin Marion & Elizabeth Caroline are commanders in chief kind affection into & wide concretes. George superintends the extra domestic affairs & is engaged & faithful manager. Thus you see that the organization of an house is in the usual & customary form; and you may infer with propriety, that ordinary comfort and felicity are ours.

Your letter of 3^d inst is rec^d and gave us much pleasure. The quotation from your hon^r Mother's letter, is excellent indeed, and ought, by no means, to be considered as too distrustful of your strength, or over-solicitous for your welfare. It is ever dangerous to feel too strong. The consequence is often a surprise from an

enemy disposed, in a conflict with ~~any~~ a few
too mighty in the struggle. Despire not the kind warnings
and excellent caution, but receive it as a useful lesson
to guard you from those dangers which ever wait
on the steps of the inexperienced when left to themselves
in a large paper town & vicious City. - It will not be
of great importance how you decide the question, between
New-York & Boston, in learning your friends. Obtain
from Thelander the state condition & members of the
family into which he wishes you to enter, and the
Terms, for you must always look to the main chance.
There is time enough to consider on the question.

Your cousin George begins to suspect his grand
friends? I hope he may not have too much reason
to repent his choice of Guardians.

Your Relations at Bethel are all well. Under
Dasher is about moving on to the farm where
Elisha Brown lived. Mr. Brown goes the week
to the Westward.

We have lately rec'd. letter from Addison, dated
Canton, Ohio, as late as the 1st March, written
apparently in fine spirits, good style, and
replete with the best sentiments. His care age and
weakness are excellent & he is yet confident of success.

Wm^d Adair has written: dated Washington
Mississippi Territory March 17th. He says he is well and
is in the practice of Physic!! Your cousin
Asenath Flint, is un happily in the hands of her
little boy, it is subject to severe fits, of which
he has many in a day.

All send love to you. You can't say, she
will write you before long.

Yours most affectionately

Daddy Chase

Man of Ph. April 13. 1817. P. Chase.
to me at H. Haven.

Al. b. b. b.
Laura Smith Collection