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Letter to George Chase

Mary Chase

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Washington (Ohio) Nov. 11th 17

K. Ch. 171111

My dear Son,

By Mr Kuffel I write you for the first time since my arrival in this new world. Not that I have ceased to think of you very often, and to pray God for you with the fervor of a fond parent separated from her darling children. O, when I meet you again, may I find you such as my heart will fondly acknowledge, and my mind justly commend.

Your Father having written both to you, when we first came here, and to your Uncle (by Mr Kuffel, and gives a description both of our journey, and situation, in this place. our hopes and prospects to come, it remains to me, only to pick up the scraps of information which may perhaps be linked in the chain of the information communicated to you by your Father.

It was rather a singular circumstance in the events of my life that the first intelligence I should receive of you after my arrival in this country should have come by the agency of the President of the United States. Yet so it is the fact. He said he saw you and left you in good health with your Uncle in Vermont.

Your Father has quite recovered his health since his coming to this country, and he enters into the business of farming with the enthusiasm which is so peculiar to himself. He has been setting out apple trees and oaks, is to complete his orchard for the present. Peach, and apple trees there are now growing and producing fruit, a nursery, and a variety of other fruit trees is to complete the projects of the present year. But Mr Kuffel will tell you so much more than I can write, that it seems like nonsense to say any thing about our affairs.

My health has not been very good since I have been in this country but it is better now than it has been

Lyons seems to have left his complaints and fights
in N. C. - His health has been very good this fall.
Almira is her usual humors tho' I think rather
more cheerful than she used to be. She seems well
pleased with Ohio which is rather a wonder as
I believe she was never well pleased with any new
place before. Little Dud has been very ill with
his teething, but now has recovered his health &
is of great good spirits. He is as full of mischief as he can
possibly be, and altogether a most lovely and inter-
esting boy. His hair is rather long with a little curl
at the ends - soft - and glossy. His eyes bright
with intelligence, - rosy cheeks, a double chin, and
altogether one of the best formed children I ever
saw. I remember that a lady told me she would
take him for a model if she were going to draw
a cupid. And as to his mind (thanks to a merciful
creator), it is by no means below mediocrity. He
has (what I dare say will please you), an evident
partiality for martial music, and will dance a
march with all the fervor imaginable. Without being
able yet to speak plainly he will point out a num-
ber of the letters and seems to delight to be able to
do so. He is persevering in his disposition but will
relinquish his most favorite pursuits out of affection
to his friends. He is not selfish, nor vain, but
liberal, and cheerful. He lived he God for all his mer-
its to me, in making me the parent of children
with so many, and such endowments. May neither I, nor
they, forget that the life and talents he has given
them were given for improvement and for eternity
and when we go whither may none of us be wanting -
Piscander has written me a long and good letter (and all
his letters are so) and gives an acc. of his visit to Vermont.
How grateful I am for the kindness of your uncle
and

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Robert M. Wilman's daughter, Catharine Jane visited
for New Orleans on one day and the news of her
father's failure in business reached N. York the next.
This is a sad stroke to us, as he has not only left
his daughter's bills unpaid, but he was years father
ago for the collection of about \$1000 due him
from the Ch^{rs} in N. O. which has probably
along with his other bills. Sheldon Clark

and runs rather against that neither you nor I
written to you. I understood that his mother is doing
well, but as yet she has not paid the order I left
Mr Lloyd. so much for misfortune. But then on the
other hand a blessing seems to have attended every
thing relative to our coming into this country.

Our journey and meeting, was next to a
miracle, and every ^{thing} we have put our hands

As I am to have had the divine blessing added

May I ever be duty unwith'd of, and thank you
for all the mercies of God toward me and mine —

and what shall I say more, - be a good boy
and remember that you owe as a son to your
uncle and aunt, - never forget their love for
you by any fulse glopes - or down right disap-
put and disobedience. Friendship, is easily kept
but when lost is not easily regained - and you are
now arrived to manhood - and what were excused
and forgiven in the child will long be remembered
in the man. Make my kind respects to your uncle
and aunt and Mrs. Beloit and all friends -

I do not feel quite well as I believe I should
not have written you quite so dull a letter and
one so little interesting - but my spirits are not
at all good and when I think of the distance
between me and my children I am quite in the Blues
but now I can do nothing for them but entrust them
with my blessing in the hands of a merciful God
may he have them all now and ever in his holy keeping. M. 1850

Mary Chase to G. C.
Washington D. C. Nov. 17th
1877

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Mr George Chase
Chas George Chase - Randolph
By Mrs. Rufus
Vermont

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p. 2 line 3

The name is 'Almira',
see Reminiscences I, 137.

line 1: 'Cyrus' is Cyrus

Fay, (Rem. I 139), ~~probably~~
(I 142)
a brother of Mary Clare,
and Almira's wife.