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9-19-1823

### Letter to Philander Chase

Reverend Noble

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K. Ch. 230919  
Middlebury, 19<sup>th</sup> 1823

Wt. Rev. & Most Dear Sir,

I have waited un-

til this morning hoping to hear from you in answer to a Letter which I addressed you at Kington more than three weeks since. On placing your dear Family at this place, I suppose you will pass down the River to New York, & perhaps after the intelligence contained in my Letter embark immediately. I cannot express all the pleasure it would give me to meet with you in New York, & on this I had fully determined, but my avocations are such as to render it necessary for me to know precisely on what day I may depend on meeting you, as an absence from ~~at~~ home of more than three days would subject me to very great inconvenience. My mind has been made up to set off for New York tomorrow at 3 o'clock in the morning which would <sup>bring</sup> me ~~there~~ at 6 o'clock in the evening. But the question this moment presses on my mind so forcibly ~~this moment~~ that my intention is changed. How do I know that my Father & my dear friend will be in New York on the 20<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup> amidst the delays of a journey of several hundred miles, & of treating <sup>his</sup> family at Kington? And if I should not, the journey may be lost both to him & me, as I must leave at all events on the 22<sup>d</sup> at 1 o'clock. My intention is to see you in New York if possible. May therefore drop me a line the first moment after your arrival, unless you intend to visit me in Connecticut - while I hope

Plen not to comment the opinion which in this letter I have in mind to count the strictness of the letter

may be the fact as I understand Mr. Seymour has written to you to that effect.

Mr. S. probably will not see you in New York, as he is on an excursion for pleasure to the sea side from which he will not return until next week. Dr. Jarvis may perhaps visit New York, but how he may feel as to the object of your voyage I know not. Bp. Hobart has written a long letter requesting him to exert his influence to dissuade you from the undertaking. The Bishops also have written to Bishop White urging him to remonstrate with you, & dissuade you from it. This I had from Dr. Brownell. - Thus there is ground to fear that you have not much countenance to expect from those in whose power it is to do most for the cause in which you have embarked with <sup>a</sup> zeal, & resolution burning the Apostle of the West. And this, on the account of a Seminary which the Atlantic Churches are able to support, but which has hitherto done very little to retrieve the disgrace of a <sup>public</sup> ~~public~~ <sup>public</sup> mission of seven or eight years. [What has <sup>been</sup> done for the Church west of the Mountains & what influence would a theological school in that immense region <sup>have</sup> unfavorable to the Gen. & Am. J. That should create so much excitement to discourage an undertaking, dictated by wisdom, the only measure which seems likely to revive the expiring hopes & reanimate the withering prospects of our western Zion, an undertaking resolved upon after invoking the aid <sup>sanction</sup> of heaven, & in which you have embarked with entire confidence in the power, wisdom & goodness of him who presides over all things for the good of his Church. An undertaking which all agree you are remarkably fitted for, which will be popular in England & which will be crowned with success, I can see no just reason why you should be discouraged, or dissuaded from any quarter. And I fear motives of local interest

have too large a share in this thing.] As one of the  
Trustees of our new College I have strong local feelings &  
interests, but these cannot change my opinion as to the  
propriety or expediency of your voyage to England, or  
prevent my earnest prayers for your safety, health &  
~~prosperity~~ success. Our College not located, not  
one cent of funds obtained, not one officer appointed,  
Boston Wharton is sent off in the greatest possible  
haste, at only 10 days notice, by two of a Committee of  
five - & within fifteen days after receiving notice of your  
determination, (I shall I doubt say prematurely) for an  
object very similar to one part at least of yours.

Wharton's mission would have received my  
approbation three months <sup>hence</sup> ago. You will give  
me credit for some share of disinterestedness. I am  
ashamed of the manner in which this business has originated  
& with the hurry with which our agent has embarked, some-  
thing is said of his ill-health, but until the day he starts  
he has been able to discharge his duty, with <sup>out</sup> any appear-  
ance of ~~any~~ debility which requires a voyage. But he  
will be just upon the ground.

I have many things to say to you. but I have nearly  
filled my sheet. - & the mail closes in a moment or  
two, - but I (am humbly individual) to express  
any opinion on the business upon which you have  
embarked? Your name is well known in England.  
Your addresses have been republished & remarked upon  
in terms of the highest approbation. & one of their most  
respectable periodicals has expressed an exalted opinion  
of your primitive & apostolic character. [You will  
be well received & successful beyond a doubt] you

one accepted to the important mission, and it will  
not be considered there degrading for you to solicit  
aid for the immense region of which they will con-  
sider I receive you as the head & apostle. [Be not-  
discouraged, Go on, trusting in him to whom you  
have so solemnly committed your cause. Indeed

Sept 18  
OK  
The Rev J. Chase D.D.

To the Care of the Rev. Dr. Wright  
Pastor of Gran Church  
New York

SEPT 19

Mr. B. G. Noble  
Middletown.  
Sept 19 - 1823

Mr. Mrs. Noble

you cannot do other wise, What would your churches say  
were you to be disinterested? If I should not see you  
I have only to say [God bless & prosper <sup>you</sup>]. On your arrival  
in England make friends of the religious periodicals & induce  
them to republish your journals de de. [Stand upon your  
own ground.] With great respect & affection  
Your friend Broth. B. G. Noble

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