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Letter to Philander Chase Jr

Philander Chase

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Cincinnati July 22nd 22
K. Ch. 220708.

My dear Son;

Your two letters conveying the melancholy - the distressing tidings of dear Mr. Morse's untimely death were received before I left home which was left Monday, this day week. I immediately on the reception of the former wrote to him, but I trembled and endeavoured to comfort him, but poor is human comfort compared with that from above: therefore he was directed, thence whence alone is the balm of human woe. Not that I considered him in any wise ignorant of the source of consolation; but my endeavour was to exhort him to practice himself, that he has so successfully taught unto others - that resignation to the will of God, which is the crown of our faith. That his Lord our Sav^r might support him in this, his greatest need! & that we, by his example, might learn how to suffer!

For a considerable time before I left home I had been afflicted with the Dysentery: so that it was doubtful if I should be able to fulfil my appointments at Dayton, this place, &c. But, on Monday, tho' very ill in the morning, I mustered courage in the afternoon to proceed across the woods. I was obliged to travel very fast to redeem lost time, & I fear injured my self by reason of the weakness of my bowels, by riding. I made out as far Springfield &c.

This place and time, and to hold service accord-
ing to appointment: but alas! I am afflicted by
a constant pain especially when I am very lame
by walking or stepping hastily, which I fear will
never leave me. I have, however, fixed on
next Thursday for returning home by way of
Dayton Hamilton Piquette & Urbana. May the
Lord strengthen me to bear the journey!

While at Dayton coming hither I saw Ebenezer
Brewer, the brother of Mary Brewer, your second
cousin. I gave him a letter to you hoping he would
go thro' it; or if he did not, the letter was to be
forwarded. It was but a scandal; but it was de-
signed to apprise you of the receipt of a letter from
the Trustees of Cincinnati College, of my unanimous
appointment to the Presidency. At first I thought
little of it: But since coming here, the business
assumes a serious shape. Messrs. Osborn & John-
ston aided by the very epidemic attention of all the Trus-
tees have almost persuaded me to leave my
farm in W. and once more lead a City life.
They promise, by every surety required, to afford me
\$1000 per annu. together with a sufficient doct. at
the outset, to indemnify me for the sacrifice neces-
sary in a sudden removal. The Cabinet work ne-
cessary in furnishing my house they say they'll
procure free of expense to me & something to help
my removal. Tomorrow they are to call on
me and receive my answer.
Sent the duty expected of me. The Rev. Mr. Osborn

K. 4. 220708 [2]

informs me it will be light. The general superintendence of the literary interests of the Institution, and the hearing of the Senior class in Belknap lectures presiding at commencements &c.

The vacations, four weeks in the spring and seven in the fall would afford me time to visit one half the diocese one year: and the other could be visited the succeeding year: so that thus my duties would ~~these~~ be made consistent.

As to the crowding of so many of us into one place, which at first seemed to me an insuperable objection, it is thus obviated. Mr. I. if his pulpit be supplied can make excursions in the country and visit vacant parishes & destitute people so as nearly to balance the evils.

Now what, you'll say, will become of my farm—my trees, my lambs and my cattle?—ans. Rent the whole establishment on as good terms as I can: or if that can't be done sell or give them away.

I wish I could see you with your dear Mother if it were only for a few hours on my return home. This I tell you will be after spending next Sunday at Dayton. Mon. at Troy Tuesday & Wednesday at Piquette & Thursday at Urbana. So that Friday night or Saturday morn

ing I shall be (God willing) at home.
If you can not come write me your wishes
- I am from feeling elated at the pros-
-pects above named I feel an unusual
depression of spirits. This I can not
account for, except it be by reason of my
ill health which God sends upon me
to keep me humble.

The chief cause of my joy at re-
moving from W. arises from a hope
of its being favorable to Mrs. Phares
happiness. To have removed her from
N. York to the woods and thus buried her
alive, has always stung my conscience
with a kind of remorse. Here she will find
those who resemble the elegant society to
which she has been accustomed. Her
pure mind will not be so frequently dis-
turbed by the viper like hissing of envy
or the toadlike croakings of malice & the
-ism. My poor babes too Sarah Dudley
Henry & Mary do not any plead in fa

room of removing hither? I think so.
And who knows but that I may find
a greater chance of enjoying your dear
society here than elsewhere? If this
College prosper, who can say but that
you may not bless me with your com-
pany. But hush! more of this
hereafter.

There is I firmly believe a pro-
vidential Providence in all things
& tho' not always visible, yet here
I humbly think it is. Many reasons
concur in making me fully believe this,
which I will give you when we next
meet which I pray be soon. In the
mean time let our hearts be drawn
more and more in pity & gratitude to
God who orders all things for the best.

If this event be rightly used it will
(whether according with or contrary to our
worldly interest and quiet) turn out for
the benefit of yourself & your loving Father
Wm. C. Chase

My Father

Cincinnati

July 8

1822

Dear Sir
I have just
received from
you a letter
of the 27th
inst. in relation
to the
business of
the
Ohio
Company
and in answer
to inform you
that the same
has been
forwarded to
the
proper
authorities
for their
consideration
and that I
will keep you
informed of
the result.