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11-18-1822

### Letter to Philander Chase Jr

Philander Chase

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Dear Philander

Commencement Tuesday 18 Nov 1824  
K. Ch. 221118

Nothing but my consciousness  
of your anxiety to hear from me impels  
me to write, being yet in a weak state  
of health and having very thing to do.  
Instead of providing a professor of Language  
= as they promised me on the description  
of the new Mr O - They have put me into  
the place of one. And do you think I  
perform my duty? The midnight oil  
and a certain vigor of determination to  
surmount all difficulties peculiar to  
our pecuniary, may conquer this quarry.  
Mr. Shaw has entered the Senior Class in  
College for the purpose of being acquainted  
with Mathematics and Nat. Philosophy  
of which Professor Slack is an excellent  
teacher. Salmon has entered the fresh.  
I know he is too young: but what would  
we do? Except for his disposition of becom-  
ing too well acquainted with the City which  
I will repress or break his father, he would  
do well enough. Poor boy! I fear from  
the specimen he has exhibited to night in  
going out without leave he will cause  
me much trouble & perhaps even be-  
come to send him back to his Mother. Alas  
he knows not the privileges which thus  
he will forfeit. Edward has entered the gram-  
mar school with a view to fit for C. L.  
Your Dear Mother has been through ex-  
cessive fatigue & taking cold in bad weather



while putting things to rights in our new dwell-  
ing no small job, quite ill. She is now a  
little better. Mr. S. & the children are tolerable  
healthy. The waggon had arrived & the things  
in good order ere we came.  
You'll ask how we sped on the way? — I am  
even things in full would require sheets. You  
must know that the road from about 9 or 10  
miles from Frank's for about 6 miles further  
is the worst there can be named. The tavern  
at the commencement of this said bad  
road where we designed to lodge for the first  
night was preoccupied by about 40 hog drivers  
accordingly we & our little ones were denied  
entrance. We pleaded hard with the landlord  
but he & his hog drivers were inexorable to our  
prayers. — We moved on — 3 miles to  
the next cabin — The night dark & the roads  
every step grew worse. Mr. Smith's very strong  
li of back & wire my strength fastened me so  
that I could hardly hold the lines. Mr. S. &  
sat near & I'd wend on foot before as pioneers  
by a loud voice calling to me to head & guide  
pointed out the way over gridiron bridges  
thous' seas of mud and over stumps. Thus I went  
over setting (the wheels alternately each side being  
so low down that the water & mud were nearly  
in above us) I suffered even unto agony. Alas my  
poor family said I — alas my poor perished  
my self must we pass the first night after I'd  
risen from my sick bed in this manner!  
The words were hardly out of my mouth when



by standing a stump on four able trucks and  
were brought up all standing. — In leaning  
from the vessel my knees refused to support  
me and I fell. What pen can describe the  
feelings of that moment. The Hopes refused  
to bark — Mr. S. imagined with each thing  
salmon, a poor shiftless boy & myself with  
hardly the strength of an infant. "The good God  
now assist us in our peril!" Here it was that  
little Edward by thinking of our Hatchet  
and felling a sapling for a lever enabled  
the young folks by by prying at the wheel  
to assist the horses while I was pushing them —  
by the bridge to back the whole establishment  
all were now mounted the children's cries  
were heard and — Shall I proceed clear  
Philander? The house tho' the meanest  
cabin there was sheltered a human family was  
yet a half-mile off. We heard the bark  
and the very sound seemed to dispel  
the darkness of the night. The no more  
stumps were behind us yet all these and 1/2  
mile was as bad & worse than that had fire  
led. The sharks from the round chimney told  
us the risk for cabin was great. In descent  
ing I again fell & Mr. Shannon supported me  
to the door. O how cheerful the fire! & how  
joyful the sound of human voice saying that  
we should not be again turned away! A poor  
log hut 12 feet square with a sick man & woman  
& 10 children rec'd us 10 in number!



And I been in health this night lodging in this  
little Cabin with children, heaps upon heaps  
all in ~~in~~ spirits with Mrs R: exulting at the  
franks of Henry - with your loving Mother overrul-  
ing all - and polite Mr Shannon now elbowed  
here & now there - would have been nuts for me  
But alas it was otherwise - I kept up the very  
spirits till about midnight when both Mrs & Mr  
R. were obliged to attend to me alone. A Gloomy  
night we passed. Mrs C had thoughts of sending for  
Dr Edmington from Frankforton. But the morning  
found me easier & full of resolution.

In starting, however a new difficulty arose. Our  
Horses chafed in their collars refused to draw. Bay  
floundered kicked & cut capers beyond all former ex-  
amples. Hunter the Master of our Cabin sick as  
he was came out to our assistance & being strong  
in his arms took charge of our refractory nags.  
My husband while the family walked the  
team was driven over the Big Darby; our  
hoft having fixed himself nearly on its banks.  
Over the Darby there is a bridge impassable by  
horses but affording the family the privilege of cross-  
ing on foot. Had you seen our dear family walk-  
ing on this with myself supported by our dear Mr  
Shannon as my only staff how would it have affected  
you! - But my courage did not fail. The horses were  
made to go and were up the hill on the opposite side.  
The room were unmounted & Hunter agreed to drive  
to the next house situate beyond the little Darby.



It was passing on this road that we saw <sup>Mich. 221118</sup> 5.  
in full day light the dangers we had overcome  
the night before. Never shall I forget that  
feats the horses, which being now warmed by action  
& fearing a chastisement for their ill conduct,  
performed in dragging us thro' gulfs of mud during  
this 3 or 4 miles to the little Darby. If swell had  
not been a lion in height & courage we should have  
been foundered over right. But thro' the prote-  
cting hand of a kind Providence we arrived safe  
to Mr Jones on little I. where we had all man-  
ner of comforts.

I had just agreed with Mr Jones for a driver who  
should come along with an empty wagon &  
going to Cincinnati but Mr Osted of Allum  
Creek with Buyce & Bill his brother in law.

The arrangement was soon made that Mr  
Spaulding & Salmon should take a seat in the  
empty wagon with Samuel B. while Mr O-  
sted should drive for us. This way thro' a  
fine country & over pretty good roads we travelled  
to Dayton. Here Mr O. left us for Lebanon  
having business there & we hired an extra  
pair of stags & the same day in which we  
arrived departed from Dayton for this our  
present home. The cause of this arrangement was  
that we learned in D. that we found to be more  
than true, that the roads thence hither were  
cut up by waggons so as to be almost impassable.



Four additional Horses with their driver & sat on  
one of them. fixed to the tongue with wire for lead  
and proved of infinite service. The whole &  
arrived us thro' every difficulty & we arrived  
on the Saturday after leaving (which was on  
Monday) in better trim than from our departure  
at the commencement, might have been ex-  
pected.

We were rec'd by Mr. Stone and family with  
great cordiality - and treated like friends.  
- I have agreed to send you word by one of  
our Preps - Pray send by one of yours  
to have him sent from Columbus to G.  
I can write no more; so farewell  
my dear, very dear Son -

May God ever bless & keep you  
& your Mother & all the family and  
all love

• D<sup>r</sup> Chas



18<sup>th</sup>

The Rev. Mr. Chase Junr.

Zanesville

Ohio.

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