

8-28-1823

Letter to Philander Chase

Thomas Osborne

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Recommended Citation

Osborne, Thomas, "Letter to Philander Chase" (1823). *Philander Chase Letters*. 148.
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Edisto Island August 28th 1823

Rt. Rev. Bp. Chase

Very dear Sir

Your affecting and affectionate letter of 2^d inst. I rec^d at a late hour last evening & I very early this morning have taken up my pen to fulfil every duty it has enjoined upon me as far as it is in my power - My situation as you know is upon an Island, and at this season of the year there is no sort of communication between the inhabitants of the place and Charles town otherwise than by letter. In this way Sir, I have endeavoured to say every thing that I could with propriety say, to Bishop Brown on the subject of your letter in one which I have just written him. - He will not, he cannot withhold his support from a cause so essentially connected with the very existence of the Church in the West, and from the prosecution of a plan which since the days of primitive and Apostolic zeal, has scarcely found a parallel. O May the good Shepherd and Bishop of souls keep you under the shadow of his wings, conduct you safely through the perils of the great deep - prosper your laudable endeavours to promote the prosperity of

gion - restore you in health to your family
and friends again and continue you a blessing
to them and the Church for many years & that
you may see the Lord's work prosper in your
hands. - Yes my dear Sir, my public voice shall be
often raised to Him who alone can dispense accor-
ding to our need, for your preservation and success.
But will not the benedictions of thousands go with
you - will not their prayers accompany your
return? - I know well the situation of the
Church in the Western country, - I know the situa-
tion of many who from various circumstances have
been compelled to leave their homes and the places
where their fathers worshiped, to reclaim the wild
and solitary wilderness; How can they sing the Lord's
song in a strange land, surrounded with perils -
infidelity and schism? - How long shall the appeal
of sympathy be unheard. Come over and help us, I
look with joyful hope and confident assurance
in the favour of heaven, that this undertaking of
yours so arduous - so unexampled so prompt with
invitations, will be a cause of rejoicing to many in
Israel. - I can see in prospect the fruits of your
zeal, - facilities for education opened to the youth
of piety and poverty - here and there the decent
Church shall rise in simple majesty to the honour

of God. -- the praises of Zion shall once more be
heard in the form of primitive usage, and the
harps which now lie rusting by the banks of
the willow, again sound responsive to the voice
of melody -- Yes Sir, the record of this time, will be
highly inscribed on many an altar where the
pious and immortal, dwell together, and the
traveller will hail from afar, the signal of
peace and good will, as his eye is attracted toward
the house of the Lord. -- Pardon this prolixity,

but I feel an interest in your enterprise which
I cannot express, nor quite contrain. I do not
-- Sir at your leaving the Presidency of the
-- I have grieved since you went that
I had been in any way instrumental in influencing
you to accept of it. But my intentions were good in
supposing that it would be the means of arousing the
Friends of the Institution from their long slumber
and of preserving the funds now belonging to the
Oxford University. -- Respecting the 50 dollars wh.
you have kindly assumed I will endeavour to remit
the amount agreeably to your order on the first
notice. And now my much revered and esteemed
friend & Father Pennell, I drop a tear at parting
but I will await your return in humble confidence
of your safety and success which may the God of
infinite mercy grant.

Affectionately

Thos. Osborne

I cannot ask you to
write me yours. }

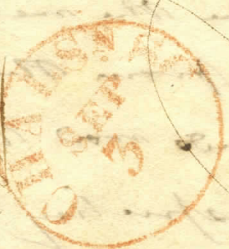
W. Osborne

Mr. W. Osborne.
The original of that fine
two letter.

Q

Right Rev. Bishop Chase
Care of Leonard Hippis Esq. Alderman
N. York

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