

Winter 2-26-1826

Letter to George Chase

Dudley Chase

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Washington Feb 26. 1826

Dear George.

Yours of 18th is rec^d and I must excuse
your speculations on the gen^l Character, from
a single speech, of particular Members of
Congress is rather of "rash cast; but you
have certainly had a fortunate hit. I read
your first page, anonymously as to the writer,
to a particular friend of mine of the House
and he said the remarks were just, and
affirmed that the Author must have been
personally acquainted with the members
alluded to, and with their congressional
standing & labours or he never could have
delineated so perfectly. — Be that as it may,
perhaps at no time since the formation
of the Govt have parties been so poorly
organised as at the present. Indeed but few
know precisely where they are. And fewer
yet, are known by others. All is in hatch-
pot all is uncertainty. I think things are
hastening towards a development, and will
eventually end well for the Administration.

I am brought to this belief, from a confidence, which I
consider well founded, that the President, and
his executive advisers, are honest, and are
sincerely aiming at the general good and
prosperity of the country. I also believe them
to be wise and enlightened statesmen. On the
contrary, the leaders of the Opposition, as far
as their feelings and views are known by their
conduct, appear to be seeking for occasion to
find fault, and therefore they have been
very unfortunate in putting out the
cause of clamour, on grounds of their complaint.
They have been equally injudicious in selecting
their rallying points. They have passed by
the Thingle, a noble warrior, and have collected
the pawns on the board, with all the parade of
skilful abuse. Their moral guards
have been wanting, too many of their Master
pieces have been put in check by the same
movement, and their game has already
become desperate. One or two of their knights
remain and bluster & hop & skip about on
the board with a great deal of activity and
ostentation but it won't do - their game
is lost for this heat. --- pshaw! no
more of this --- Your father leaves here
tomorrow, for Ohio. He has assumed some

the ends for which he made his journey, and returns but little disappointed.

I thank you for all the minutiae of intelligence you afford me of yours & mine, your way of letting matters & things amuse me mightily. Give my love to your good & excellent wife and tell her I most heartily wish her half the happiness she deserves, and that's enough for one poor mortal.

As to Dec. Washburn, I that I had already and your letter on that head pray look over and find what I have written. — I am most indebted to the Dec. or you will see by referring to my books. I have made no promises to furnish him. The Ten Cents you have already let him have, is, I should suppose, what he would want for his family's use. — I say again, I under no obligation to him — yet I would not see him suffer. But this does not mean that I would furnish him or he might please to claim or make demand. I ought not to try to pay his debts, or to keep him clear of expenses. — If I were at home I should judge of the necessity of the case by inquiry & knowing the circumstances, and then act accordingly. But must leave the matter to your judgment and your Aunt's decision. Act right & that will do. — I have been rather out of kilter and

Still am, but hope I am gleaming. have
written Mr Chase this forenoon & at 2 P.M.
let her see this and she will not be any
alarmed for my sake.

Mr. Gallaudet, a Senator from South Carolina
died this afternoon - his complaint was of
long standing, a disease of the Liver. Mr.
McQueen another Senator from N. Jersey
is dangerously ill of a paralysis and will
probably never be in his seat again.
so we go.

The Panama Question, hangs a loose
but new blossom. Will probably put
forth this week. It has excited much
talk & some interest. — —

It will be gone before I am at home
in all probability - shall write you
again before long. in the mean time
continue to write & write & write

Your affectionate friend
A. A. Chase

D. C. to G. C.
Washington Feb. 26. 1826