

9-5-1836

Letter to Intrepid Morse

Philander Chase

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Jan

Robins Nest, in Townshipt 10
Range 6. East
11. m. N.E. of Peria
Illinois
Sep 5. 1834
R. Ch 360905

Dear Nephew,
You will laugh when reading the
place of my date; but it is nevertheless true in all
its particulars. My nearest Post Town is at present
Peria. Of which information I hope you will soon a-
vail yourself.

If you ask who are with me; I can say there are but two
your dearly - the same as have accompanied me
in all my wanderings, with the exception of the
absence of Dudley who is at Hartford in Conn.
and the presence of James Hamilton a young and
faithful Christian domestic whom we have at-
tached to the interests of our family that he in-
sist on accompanying us from Gilead to this
Ivory.

If you should still inquire what is our sit-
uation the ans. wd be more difficult. It is on the
frontier of one and far distant ^{from} another settlement
and the only place we have to live in was a few weeks
ago growing in the trees of the wood. Two small ca-
bins were reared by two brothers, squatters on Co. grs
lands; and when they ^{were} yet without floors or windows
or doors, or beams or chimney I bought them &
the privileges attached shd be nothing more than

common comfort to ~~you~~ ~~unmolested~~. One of
these Cabins I unroofed & tore down ~~and~~ drew to the
place of the other and there erected it again thus ma-
king what is called a double Cabin with a 12 ft. space
In this space I put up a ~~stone~~ cooking stove &
in one of the cabins laid a floor and placed a frank-
-lin stove with a grate in it for the burning of wood
of which there is an abundance on the place. -
I have a carpenter now at work in laying the
floor of the other part or east cabin and we
hope to have things soon in comfortable
-way for new beginners even though they be
not young (as ~~one~~) to bear deprivation & toil.
- Mrs Chase I am sorry to tell you is quite
sick. Her great desire to be useful while
she was an itinerant in the neighbourhood
to minister to the sick exposed her too ~~much~~
and she now has the fever. - It's violence how-
ever begins to subside and we hope for the
best. - The presence of Mrs Prupell &
Mary and the boys lately arrived from
Juliet (where they were left while we were
exploring the country & fixing our place of
residence) contribute much to the com-
fort and peace of mind of my dear wife
and now we have moved to our home.

(a very dear word) I repeat The hope I have
she will recover soon. I am now writing this
by her bed side as she does in a feverish sleep
- O dear I trusted what I should I now
do if it were not for our Holy faith! - As it is
I am calm and feel a support ~~which~~ the world
knows nothing of. Futurity hath the promises -
The present hath duties but few enjoyments but
those which look forward. -

Will you send me by some friend coming di-
rectly to Peoria - Garden seeds of all sorts those
which you sent to Gilead to supply the place of
those which were burned with our house. I did not come
to hand. - Will you send me also a peck of apple
seeds - do. of black locust seed. One bushel of
orchard grass seed: and as many trees peaches
hain, plums, cherries, & grafted apple trees in
a young or small state as you can spare
- If this letter should reach you soon
and the opportunity sh. speedily occur of
sending them all these things may reach
me before cold weather should set in. -
- especially if the roots of the trees be well se-
cured with matts. -

I have purposely omitted saying anything
about my Ellis School. Of this I hope I
have some good news in store. Write soon
to me. Give all love to those who are under your
roof and are most dear to you. Lovingly write P. C.



LB

Family

Rev. J. Morse,

Sturtevant

Ohio.

