

Philander Chase Letters

9-26-1837

Letter to Dudley Chase

Philander Chase

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Robinson. Peoria Co. Ill.

Sept 22

Dear Brother Dudley,

As you are a farmer from
 choice and I from necessity; and as we
 both are the immediate witnesses of God's
 goodness in rewarding the labour of our
 hands by the blessing of his providence
 in the fruits of the earth, it affords me
 pleasure and you I know will take equal
 pleasure in hearing from me the fol-
 lowing instance of the fruitfulness of our
 soil in Illinois. Take it as it stands on
 record all my family being witnesses to the
exactness as well as truth of the fact. viz

The vines of one Watermelon seed which fell acci-
 dentally into the earth by the side of a cornfield planted in June
 1857. and which had no other manure than the natural soil, never
 before this year ploughed or cultivated, produced thirteen watermelon

Weights as follows

1 st - 32 to 6 ^{oz}	6 - 23 -	11 - 19 -	12 - 10 - 6	13 - 8 - 6
2 - 28 -	7 - 21 - 6	13 - 8 - 6	2 - 82 - 0	13 times the largest
3 - 28 -	8 - 21 -	2 - 82 - 0	2 - 82 - 0	which they are kept
4 - 25 - 6	9 - 20 -	2 - 82 - 0	2 - 82 - 0	with weight
5 - 25 -	10 - 19 - 6	2 - 82 - 0	275 - 6	

These melons were all ripe and sweet but not so eximiously so as my melons in general ~~was~~ which were planted in May. They were growing at the time the frost on the evening of the 20th came & injured the vine.

Our corn planted as above stated is not injured: - being the first crop on the turf it is not so generally ^{good} as when the sod becomes mellowed by culture, but we think hence sufficient to feed us and our animals thro' the approaching winter. Our crop of Turneps both Russian and Eng^l look uncommonly fine; On 2 or 3 acres there will probably be more than we can use. Our wheat sown in Aug. & Feb. looks very fine. There is more than 12 acres of this. -

So much for the natural, and what shall I say of our spiritual, Culture - - Alas the fields are white indeed unto harvest but where are the Labourers? Pray, O let me ask you to join me in praying that

The Lord would send forth labourers into his
harvest's

In about a week from this I set out
on my third visitation tour. This time I must
go to the southern part of the diocese, but
my cares at home to keep my dear family
from the inclemencies of the approaching winter
will force me back again sooner than it were
to be wished.

Do not forget me Dear Brother! -
Let me hear from you once more
in this word. -

Give my love to those whom you
know I love so dearly - all my brothers
and sisters nephews & nieces and all their
little ones and believe me

your ever affectionate
Brother

Philander

I send you by this mail a copy of my Illinois
Pastoral letter.

From
J. P. Chan. Wm. Robinson. N.Y.
Oct 26

The Hon. Judge Chan
Randolph

Vermont

1837
Jan 21
B. B. Brown Jr

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