

Philander Chase Letters

6-8-1840

Journal Entry 1840-06-08

Philander Chase

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South Carolina Professors in Jubilee College
an account of its origin - from - K. Ch. 400608

An extract from Mr. Chace's journal.

1840. June 6. Breakfasted by by invitation at the house
of Gen. C. C. Pickney so long and so justly esteemed
by Washington, among the most trust worthy of
American Patriots. Present, his daughters, the
heirs of his virtues and estates; the rev. Bishop elect
of this diocese, two other Clergy men, and several la-
dies - Miss Sarah Rutledge a relative of the
Pickneys, and Mrs Louder ^{widow of the} late member
of Congress. Many pleasant things passed in
conversation during the refreshments of break-
fast: but that which followed afterwards ex-
ceeds them all.

The subject of Jubilee College was introduced
and with it was mentioned a Proposition
to found a "South Carolina Professors."

The paper containing this plan and the terms
of it I had drawn up in the morning be-
fore the coach came to take me to this bless-
ed breakfast. I was asked to read it.

N.B. - the Principal is not to be paid till
the year of our Lord 1850. The interest at 7
per cent to be forthcoming every year at
Whitsuntide; the first year's interest due in

1841

1840. — and so on ⁽²⁾ for nine years, or until 1850
The whole sum necessary is \$10,000 which at
the proposed rate will bring in annually 700.
This with a good house & garden a farm of
ten acres, and fuel of coal and wood all free
of rent, is deemed sufficient to maintain a
Professor and his Family.

To show that hope we had that this Pro-
-fessorship will be made up in South Caro-
-lina I referred to an article published in
the Episcopal Recorder of the 23^d of May last
wherein it was set forth that a certain gentle-
man, Col. Richardson of St. Matthews Pa-
-rish Orange District, S. Carolina, had most
generously pledged himself to be one of
the three who would raise this whole sum.

As this article of the Recorder was very full
of undeserved compliments to myself I thought
proper to retire into the Library while the
Rev. Mr. Wallace read it to the company

When I returned which was in some 15 or 20
minutes, Miss Piskney addressing me said
"if you will accept a Lady for a subscriber

I will be one of the ⁽³⁾ Three responsible
for the whole sum!!

I need not tell you how deeply I was
affected by this liberal offer made with
such dignified simplicity, and sincer-
-ity of heart.

Soon after this, as I was leaving
the room, and about to descend the
steps - Miss Sarah Rutledge, ~~unmarried~~
~~Miss~~ ~~Martha~~ ~~Martha~~ whispered in my ear -
that she would give the one sixth -
the half of what her relative had given -
- if she also could be admitted as sub-
-scribe to so glorious an object - but
wished her name to be concealed!!

["Dear angel spirit" I thought I. How
can this be? - Hide the soft rays of
thy gentle virtues and the brightness of
thy good example? - Never! - Gather
the sunbeams with ^{mortal hand} our hands and confine
them in a basket as soon.]

(over)

I went

4.

I went with the Rev. Mr W, to ask the necessity
= my advice of legal gentlemen and to get
the subscription paper engrossed for signature.
This was all done in due form:
so that before night I saw the one half
of the ten thousand dollar for the purchase
firmly secured. — —

Whitsunday June 7. The forenoon spent in sacred duties
at St. Philips —
Afternoon indisposed —

Whitsun Monday 8th June. Quite well attended St. Michael's
Church. I was in the chancel under the
floor of which rest in peace the earthly remains of
the two late most estimable Bishops of South
Carolina. How could I refrain from being mo-
-ved at this solemn fact especially as they were
most dear to me? (and would I help extending my
thoughts a little further? — as I have already told
you near the chancel wall outside is the
humble grave of my dear son and a marble
stone with the following inscription.

quod vide