

Philander Chase Letters

10-1841

Letter to Mary Olivia Chase

Charlotte Johnson

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Middleton October 1841

My Dear Young Lady,

The visit of your venerated Grandfather, Bishop Chase, gives me an opportunity I have for some time desired, of requesting your acceptance, of a Binket, which is only valuable, as containing in the form which seemed to me most suitable and appropriate, the hair of your dear and excellent Father; His name is also inscribed on the Cross. The sign of that pure and Holy Faith of which he was an able advocate, and a delightful example.

"The chamber where the good man meets his fate

"Is privileged beyond the common walk

"Of virtuous life, quite in the verge of heaven."

It was my privilege to be a frequent visitor in his. I was an inmate of Mrs Keddiges visiting my sister. Your father was under the same hospitable roof, and though he removed to lodgings in Charleston a short time previous to his death. we were much with him. I saw him sick & feeble dying, separated from kindred and friends a stranger though exciting the warmest sympathy and friendship in all who surrounded him. I knew there were times when his heart longed for the presence of his wife his infant child his revered Father. but I saw him bow with meek submission to the will of his Heavenly

Father. I witnessed his calmness, his patience, his cheerful acquiescence, his desire to glorify God in his death, to serve his fellow creatures. I can still recall the love the hope the joy that beamed in his countenance, when in conversation or prayer or listening to us as we sang his favorite hymns. His soul seemed already tasting the beatific vision, which he was soon to enjoy. I felt and realized more fully than I had ever before done, the absolute need of a hope full of immortality. I was then nearly as young, as you and me, and ready, with youthful zest to seize on every gratification I might. But I entered in the gates presented me there, with a spirit chastened and sobered, by all I witnessed at home, and my brief enjoyments and happiest recollections, were from his conversation, and his example. — I may say my dear Miss Chase, that through life, joys, sorrows, cares and pleasures, hopes and disappointments, the memory of your Father has been blest to me. I have ever been grateful to God, for the privilege of knowing him, and have many times and shall ever resort with comfort and hope to his assurance that "he prayed for us that we might die as happy as he died." surely such prayers avail much. And if he thus prayed for us, how fervent must have been his supplications, for the absent ones nearest his heart, and most for you his child. — May every blessing his purified spirit invoked be yours my dear is the sincere prayer of Your friend
Charlotte Johnson

From Mrs Charlotte Johnston
Andelottum
Conn.

Miss Chase.

Ms Mary Chase with
a card made in
father's name (Pittsboro)
1846 -
Two letters go with
the card
E. Chase.

Ms 9