

Philander Chase Letters

7-10-1843

Letter to Laura Chase

Philander Chase

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My dear Laura:

I have had a laborious life of it, since I last wrote you, and were I to say that it has been full of sickness and trouble also, I should speak the truth. From the Convention in Quincy where your dear Uncle Dudley was ordained to priest's orders, I proceeded to Chenango an interesting place where the church is making a beginning a little below the mouth of Raskatia River. - Here we officiated baptizing and confirmed and administered the Holy Comm^o to a goodly number.

The roads across from Chester were very bad and my health very poor, yet we made out to preach often and organize one Parish most of Vermont people in Jackson County. Some of the members knew my dear Brother Dudley - their names are Tenthill - At W^mburn and Fairfield we had large congregations - At Albion we consecrated a Church and confirmed 24 - besides baptizing a number of penitents many times -

We left Albion about night ago this day - I was sick when arriving at Grayville on the Mohawk. Dudley preached in the evening - The next day we dropped down the River in Skiff - to Harmony the place begun by Raskapi and afterwards purchased by the fidel Owen. Raskapi's Church which was

built to contain about 5,000 people and the
which was turned by Owen into a Theater and when
cost about 10,000 Dollars is going to decay and
the owner to save it from utter ruin has given
it in fee simple to the Vestry of the Ep. Church.
But whether it will be worth the repairing is a
question. It exhibits an improving sight with its
large pillars and vaulted roof. - A fine Church
of a size to contain 5 or 6 hundred persons might
be made of it & still have enough room for spacious
schools and a convenient parsonage.

From Harmony on the Wabash we went on to the
Ohio River & officiated in the evening at a place called Monie
barn of Indiana. Here also we met with Vermonters -
A steamboat on Monday took us up on board & that night
we passed Cairo into the Mississippi River
Our arrival at Chester was worse than they expected
yet we spent our time usefully there. I went up on Saturday
and officiated in the Town of Kaskaskia settled about the
same time with Phil. The inhabitants are chiefly Presby-
terian - After preaching on Sunday I took cold & have
not tasted any thing since. I came down and in
the evening officiated preached and confirmed in Chester
On Monday a boat took me to this place where

I have been sick ever since. Yesterday the 10th of July I was obliged to keep close in the house being forbidden by my physician to go to Church - Dudley however came & preached 3 times & read in voice twice: from which you may infer his perfect health - I am at Dr. Hoffmanns who treats me with great kindness.

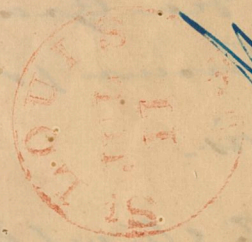
I hope to resume my labours in my own diocese in a few days and to be at home in the course of fortnight or 3 weeks. I fear they are all well at Jubilee. Little Dudley, Henry's babe, I learn has been weaned, and your dear Grand mother has been so fortunate as to procure good milk - a thing very rare in Illinois.

My own mind in relation to eternal things was never more at ease. God's Spirit seems to be with me and comfort me with the fond hope of soon seeing you and our Grand mother in Paradise.

Give my love to your hon^{or} mother & loved sisters & brethren: and when you see Brother Dudley or other friends mention me kindly to them - all believe me your loving Grandfather Phil Chase

FFS
FFor

Free to Chase b. M.
Wilmington N. H.



Mrs Laura Chase

W. Randolphs. Vermont

p. M M
N. M

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