

Philander Chase Letters

12-9-1844

Letter to Laura Chase

Philander Chase

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New York 47. Broad Way Dec 9th 44

My dear Laura

My eyes flow with tears as I rise from my knees begging God's Grace to sanctify to me the death of my dear most dear Sister Alice. O Laura this dispensation of Divine Providence in taking from my view this sister sinks deeper into my heart, than you are probably aware of —

It was Alice who was the soothing friend of my childhood. — When our mother, weakly & sick, as was the case very often & for a long time at the period when I most wanted her bosom to lean on, — when my Mother could not take me — then this dear Sister more than all others supplied her place. To her calm and soothing care as I ran, — & by her stories was my perturbed spirit quieted when my Mother was in her sick room — and when all others were unmindful of my childish woes. — — — And now that dear person after spending a whole life of personal suffering and weariness sleeps in the grave, — ^{I mourn indeed.}

You say there were but 3 who gathered round that sacred

saved spot near that lonely Church to
see that dear object of your affection lowered down
to the dark and cold spot to which our unhappy
race are doomed to come at last. "The fourth
was away" - Would that he could have been there
also! -!

You seemed when you wrote your letter to think
some others had given me the information of,
my dear sister's sickness and death. - Alas!
it is otherwise. No tidings had I of any
name or nature touching any of my friends
until after since I left them. You say that
my place of address was not known. Dear
Laura. Did not our whole church know where
the Convention was held? Did not all my
friends know I was a member of this Con-
vention: And yet not a letter did I receive from
any one! -

You think I blame you for your
taciturnity. If I did to do so, it is no sign

I love you the less; but rather ^{that} I think ~~of~~ of
you the more and pray for you the more
fervently. -

You say you are within a month
(with the leave of Providence) to change your
condition - is. You I suppose, are the man
Dd. May God's gracious blessings attend you
in so doing. May you prove a good comfortable
and wife & partner in all your future
Husband's joys and sorrows: and may
you both be blessed in all you think &
in all you say and in all you do,
for Jesus Christ's sake.

My eyes are still full of tears at thoughts of
dear Dear, Sister Allie's death. That she is
blessed I know full well. - But to think of
the shattered remnant of our once flourishing
family - how like the leaves of autumn we
all appear! The summer is past and we fall
down and into the cold ground. -

The doctrine of the Resurrection alone can cheer
us when dwelling on this subject. May God give us
grace to realize it! Your loving Grandfather
Wm. Chase

Laura Smith Collection

per Chase & M

Mrs Laura Chase
West Randolph
Vermont.



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