

Philander Chase Letters

1-1-1846

Letter to Philander Chase

Mary C. Caswell

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High Dean Vicarage
 near Amesbury
 Wiltshire
 England

My dearest Uncle

Your letter gave me the greatest joy, and I have delayed writing to you in the hope ~~that~~ to be able to send something worthy of your acceptance for the great work which lies so near your heart. I have not succeeded, as all of our friends who have any thing to bestow, have interested themselves in the building or repairing of Churches in this country. We live in a retired place where we see few people except the neighbouring clergy and their families.

We continue to be pleased with our situation here. The parish contains about 500 inhabitants all of them very poor with the exception of the Squire and 5 or 6 farmers. They had for a long time been without a resident Clergyman before Henry came and he has had enough to do to get the parish into proper order. There was no day school then, and now we have two, a boys school; and a girls school with a teacher from the training school for teachers at Salisbury. There are 60 children in the two schools. We have also had a Clothing Club in operation for two years which is a great assistance to the poor. — We are

educating our children at home and we are glad on the
account to be in a quiet place where we have but few
interruptions. We now have four children, Elizabeth, Robert
and Henrietta you have seen. The last was born on the
anniversary of your 70th birth day on the 12th of Dec^r /44. Her
name is Emma Louisa. Our children are all healthy and
they are very much beloved by all of their relations in
England. Elizabeth remembers you and wishes me to give
her best love to you. She has just returned from a visit
to her Grandpapa and Grandmama at Lavington where she
has been for the last three weeks. On the 12th of this
month all of our family party are going to Gillingham in
order to remain two weeks with Mrs Deane, Henry's eldest
sister, who is a very interesting person. Her husband the Rev.
Henry Deane has built 5 churches ^{in his parish} during the last 12 years.
Henry's father is now 78 years old and continues strong & active.
He often walks to Devizes 6 miles and back, making 12 miles
without any apparent fatigue. I am very much attached
to him he is such a very excellent person. I feel very
happy in England and much more at home than I could
have anticipated. Henry's relations are all most
affectionate to me. I regret that you were not
able to see them when you were in this country. Your
likeness hangs in the study of Henry's father who has read
your reminiscences with great interest. We have sent

to town for another No. but answer was returned that
no number was on hand. We have received No. 7. Has No. 8
been published? We were particularly interested in No. 7, as most
of it was quite new to us. We saw by the papers that you
had again been upset in a stage-coach and afterwards that
you had commenced your journey to the West. I sincerely
hope that before this you have quite recovered.

You have probably seen in the papers an account
of several of the Clergymen of England who have
joined the Roman Catholic Church. It has made a great
commotion in all parts of the country. Mr. Newman has
a sister who is a neighbour of ours. She is the wife of
the Rev. Mr. Mozley who was formerly the Editor of the
British Critic.

I have not heard from Vermont lately as I have not
yet replied to my last letters, but hope to by the next
mail. The last we heard was the death of Mr. Sabine
of Bethel. Will you please to present my best love
to Aunt Chase, Dudley, Henry, Mary and Philander. I can only
think of the latter as a little fat boy and cannot realize
that he is married. How happy I should feel to see yourself
and family party again. I hope Aunt Chase has good
health after all of her exertions for Kenyon and Jubilee.
We always think of her example as well worthy of
imitation. I should be very glad to have a letter from dear
Dudley. My sister Mrs. Cook mentioned seeing him last year.
We have several times unexpectedly met with persons
in England who were either personally acquainted with
you or had known those who were and who take an interest
in your proceedings. Lady Charles Napier who met you
in Scotland and her niece, Mr. Hartwell Home at the British
Museum, who is the Librarian, ^{a relation of Henry's} and the
Bishop of Salisbury, were among the number. The Bishop

of Salisbury has lately married the Hon. ^{the} Clementina
Ston who was one of the Queen's Maids of Honour. She is a
very ladylike person. Henry unites with me in love to you
self and family and also to Mrs Purcell and Sarah and

McFarland
Le Q
The Right Rev. Bishop Chase P.M.
Jubilee College
Peoria County
Illinois
SALISBURY
JAN 1846
By Steamer
from Liverpool

Mary Caswell
Jan 1846

Alice Chase Collection

Believe me my dear Aunt

Your truly affectionate Niece

Mary C. Caswell

P.S. Can you tell me what part of England the Pags were from
who were my dear Grandmother's ancestors? I have quite forgotten if I ever
knew the name.

