

Chicago Ill.
Sept. 1856.

My dear Sir:

Your letter for which I have been so anxiously & patiently waiting and looking was received only yesterday afternoon - & from it I realized all the gratification I had anticipated: indeed I scarcely ever received a letter from the reading of which I experienced more satisfaction - & for this now let me confess myself thoroughly obliged to you. 'Twas just such as, had I been cognizant of the circumstances which surrounded ^{you} at the time, & impelled you to write it - I might have expected from you - but not from every body.

The pious resignation with which you submit to that awful, but certainly just and wise decree of Heaven, which has deprived you of your mother is worthy & becoming in you as a sensible & Christian man. And tho' it would have given me so much pleasure had you written ~~to~~ before, yet I can readily excuse an apparent delinquency, since I am the better enabled to appreciate your feelings under such afflictions, as I too have been visited after the same manner, & perhaps more than you can have felt the bitter consequences. —

But I am very sorry to learn that you are
under any pecuniary embarrassments - yet hope
you may ~~be~~ overcome it, & determined as you
are ^{to leave N.C.} to manage your affairs with advantage
& to perfect satisfaction, and cure your
mental depression & be enabled to embark
in your some-time - in future new theatre.

Resolved to come out here if you gather
together your capital & stocks in trade
you will have to wait but a short ^{time} before
in some shape or other an advantageous
means of investment will be presented - so
that you may reap from forty to one hundred
pr. cent. from it. If I could borrow money
in N. Carolina at 6 pr. cent. I would readily
do it, & consent even to depend upon the
bonus I could get by lending here, which
I could do at from 3 to 10 pr. cent. pr. month
in small sums. - I hope you will make
a visit to Chicago this fall - I think it'd
be an excellent determination - because I
believe it would be a profitable and
gratifying one -

Now I approach that part of
your letter which is "Confidential" and
which I will take good ^{care} shall be
kept as such. I am very glad you

have put me in possession of that information relating to Uncle John's decision to leave New-Born. It does seem to me astonishing that the people, business men, of the old states, who are abundantly endowed with energy, industry, perseverance & activity as well as that very plausible desire to accumulate some means of comfortable easy livelihood & to be able when they are called from their family to leave them something. I say, I am surprised at their apparent profound ignorance of some of the advantages of this St. West Country. Not that men necessarily & invariably make money out here - not that - but that capital is worth so much more here. And now I have been able to pay some attention to advantages of location, and the attractions of the different sections of County. I am yet unable to see that any town, city or section has more advantages than Chicago to establish a business in. Yet I shall write you more particularly in future, & if I could would write to Uncle John. But I shall prefer to say any thing to induce him to believe I am acquainted with the facts in which you have put me in possession in. I firmly believe that if you or

well. When would establish a business here
you would find it different from W. Vermont
and want to live here. I am firmly
convinced her advantages for beginning the establish-
ment of a business over any City - that I know - at
any rate East if not West. This however you
will determine. How earnestly I am wish
you may do well - whatever happens!

As for the management of my father's
Estates & the guardianship of the Children
I am really at a loss to know how to think.
If it were in my power I would take
charge of both - & cut all what I
may do - at any rate I would like might
will to take the charge of the Children. Please
think of this and write to me "constantly"
as you say & let me know what you think
about it. It perplexes me not a little - But
all I hope may be arranged comfortably somehow.

I would like mightily well to see
you, Ann - Mr. Banks & Mrs. H. Elizabeth &
Bills & all - Give my love to them - My
determination is, not to return now, even if
I had the money - and I will not formally
the time. - I hope Pickel is doing well.

As for the girls profusion of Religion
and joining the Methodist - I am perfectly
satisfied - satisfied that they are members of any