

Oct 25, 1924

Mr. Percy B. Tripp
Tientsin, China.

Dear Percy:-

I have delayed writing you until now as there was nothing special I had to say.

Mr. Hester has paid nothing since I wrote you until to-day he paid \$25.30 more but he pleads poverty as usual and I just can't work it out of him.

The premium on your life insurance policy No. 354479 in Provident Mutual of Philadelphia was due on September 5th and I had no money with which to pay it. I received notice under date of October 22nd that the policy would be cancelled unless attended to immediately with the payment of \$47.08 so I am sending the Company check for \$47.08 and hope that it will re-instate the policy so that it will not lapse. I enclose their letter in regard to the matter. You had probably better sign the declaration and return to the company as requested. I am also enclosing you some mail received by me which I presume is of personal character so I did not open it.

Also have notice of premium of \$48.65 due on September 26th on policy in the New York Life Insurance Company, and as the thirty days on this expire tomorrow I am also paying that. All the rent money, however, should go to pay the attachments on the taxes but I am taking chances on diverting it for this purpose to save your policies from lapsing.

Regarding the stone quarry three attachments have been issued on the machinery and the property was to be sold this week under one attachment but Mr. Dudley took over the attachment and had it assigned to him personally so the sale did not take place. I suggested to Mr. Rust that he had been make an attachment on the machinery for rent. Mr. Dudley, however, stated to me that his Company was not responsible for any rent in excess of royalties on stone quarried and sold and all that has been paid. He states that he did not take over the lease of Mallon and others and that you and he agreed verbally that all his Company was to pay would be the royalty on what stone was taken out. I wish you would write me fully in regard to this matter and also let me know if you can how much has been paid on the rent contract. The contract year, I believe, expired in June, and provided for at least \$1200 being paid in royalties during the year. Give me all the information you can in regard to the matter.

Everything is moving on here about as usual. We have had a most delightful October, no rain so far during the whole month and the weather just perfect. We are progressing finely with the Bank building and hope to get it by November 15th.

Mr. Buxton was buried last week and Mr. Ellison died about three weeks ago.

Hope you had a safe journey and that this will find yourself and family well.

Very truly yours
M. E. Church

Source: Special Collections
University of Virginia Library
"Papers of Merton Elbridge Church, 1866-1959"