

May 25th 1925

Percy B. Tripp, Esq.,
Tientsin, China.

Dear Percy:

As Mr. Rust wrote you during my absence the Falls Church Bank ordered the sale of your property under the terms of the deed of trust. The amount now due the Bank with accrued interest is something over \$9000.

As you have been informed for time to time, the money paid into my hands from various sources had not been sufficient to pay anywhere near the obligations accrued and accruing which you authorized me to pay. I have distributed the money as far as I could even neglecting the payment of the taxes in order to keep up your payments on some other matters and I am herewith enclosing you statement of your account of money received and distributed by my office since last statement.

As you will remember the attachment was put in my hands for taxes due on the property which makes me liable for any money coming into my hands but as I stated before I have been trying to meet some of your other pressing obligations especially storage and your fire insurance.

Your property was advertised under the terms of your trust to the Falls Church Bank to be sold on May 4th. Several were present on that occasion prepared to bid. I stated before the sale that in view of your absence and difficulty in communicating with you I was not sure that you understood the circumstances and I would not sell the property under the trustee's sale at a sacrifice price and unless a bid was made that I felt sure would be satisfactory to you would not accept it but I would accept bids and cable you and postponed the sale for period of two weeks until I could hear from you by cable but that on May 18th at 4 o'clock I would sell the property to the highest bidder unless some other arrangements had been made. I am cabling you as follows:-

"Best bid Trustee's sale, farm, quarry and fourteen acres, Twenty-nine thousand. Sale continued May eighth. Must accept offer or sell then. Answer."

I realize that you will not get this letter before the 18th but I want to explain the matter to you more fully than I can be cable so you will understand my position in the matter and just how I have tried to protect your interests.

You know the State Banking officials will not allow bank to carry overdue paper unnecessarily and it was therefor necessary that our bank should make an effort collect the amount that is due.

The best offer I had on the property yesterday was \$25,000 from Mr. Thomas R. Keith for 109 acres including the quarry and \$250 per acre from Mr. Hoge for the 14 acres. This offer was afterwards increased by Mr. John Rust to \$300 per acre for the 14 acres. These offers, as I said, I am holding in abeyance until I can hear from you in response to my cable.

There are several people interested in the purchase of the property but I am uncertain as to whether it will bring any more than or not. If you do not accept this offer I do not know any other way but to sell to the highest bidder on May 18th.

I had hoped that the opening of the Lee Highway and prospect of the New Memorial bridge would create a great demand for property but developments here so far have been very slow but I am still hopeful it is coming but just when no one can tell. There is not much activity at present but I am still optimistic. However, with the very best efforts we could put forth the best offer we have ever been able to obtain was the \$25,000 for the house and 100 acres which was submitted to you and you declined.

We had some warm weather here in April and bid fair to have an early spring but it has been cold lately and it looks now like we are going to be a little behind time. However, the trees are nearly in full foliage, and the grass is looking well, but the gardens are backward and fruit damaged considerably by frost.

There are not many changes in Falls Church and everything is just about as usual. The Presbyterian Church has decided to abandon its present site and build a new church at the East End in order to accommodate the Leeway people who were considering building a church there.

Mr. Rust informs me that the quarry business is at a standstill and nothing can be done of course until litigation is ended. The Tinner boys have opened up another quarry on the Lee property which they say is of similar stone.

I suppose you have heard of the death of Rev. Timothy Noland during the winter and of the Rev. Dr. Thomas.

Very truly yours,
M. E. Church