

Colonial Beach, Va.
Aug. 25, 1923

Dr. M. E. Church
Falls Church, Va.

Dear Dr. Church:

Before coming down here I tried to get financial affairs arranged definitely, but met with delays of various kinds and so the season was getting so late I thought I had better get my family away for a few weeks change of air, of which they were beginning to show the need, and take up money matters again after our return.

I had expected the quarry to be working under full head several months ago, but a most peculiar triangle of contending interests developed. One of the parties to the triangle has now dropped out and the remaining two seem to be about at a crisis that will eliminate another: I hope to hear that they have found clear sailing within the next few days.

I had one conversation with the gentleman you told me of (his name gone from my mind for the moment) and sent him one letter in regard to the possibility of securing a loan to cover the two present trusts on my property. I have not yet received his answer, but, if I do not hear from him before, I shall to see him again immediately after my return to the city and see if I cannot secure enough to clear off all present accounts at the Falls Church Bank.

Besides the two matters mentioned above, there are some others that will be settled within a month or two, so that I can again be making progress financially. I am glad to say that altho I have fallen behind in certain lines, I have reduced indebtedness elsewhere, which has fully compensated for the former and kept me about, or a little the better than even for the past year.

I believe the 27th of this month is the first anniversary of the second trust, so, in order that the bank may show clear accounts, I think I had better send a sixty day note to cover the interest for one year and that temporary arrangement will give me time enough to bring something else to a head so that I can probably take it all up when due.

It may be the 15th or 20th of Sept., or later, before we leave here,-depending on the weather. If it were not that my wife is afraid to stay alone, I might arrange to return earlier, but she needs all the fresh air and salt bathing, she can get and I must stay with her.

We regret very much that we shall not be able to attend the happy event in our family, but we send our good wishes and shall take the earliest opportunity to extend personal congratulations.

Sincerely Yours
Percy B. Tripp

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