

April 25th, 1918

Percy B. Tripp, Esq.
Tientsin, China.

Dear Percy: -

Your letter of March 7th to George Mankin has been turned over by his wife, Susie, to me for reply as there are several questions she could not answer.

I have sent you the check book requested. Mrs. Mankin will attend to the matter with Miss Emma Reed and will write you in regard to that.

Regarding your interest in the old Baptist Church no further papers are necessary than your consent as given in your letter as the legal title rests in Doctor Fadeley and myself as trustees for the owners of the property or rather we were elected as trustees but the Baptist church people never actually conveyed it and we had arranged to sell it to Mr. Harry Dirge for \$1000 and a deed had been executed to him on that basis but now that the Episcopal Church has taken it up we will let that deed stand and Mr. Dirge is conveying direct to the church. Most of those interested have already signified their willingness to donate their interest to the church. I am very glad of this as they will make better use of it than anyone else could and it will not only be a benefit to their church, but to the public generally for them to have charge of it as they propose to make it a community center especially for the young people.

Regarding your inquiry as to a loan upon your real estate here, will say: I have no doubt but what you could secure a loan of four or five thousand dollars if you wish it. A deed of trust would have to be executed by yourself and wife in the same form as a deed would be executed. I presume you know what that means. i.e. it would have to be acknowledged in the same manner as a deed would be acknowledged. The interest would be six per cent per annum payable semi-annually and the commission would be five per cent on a three year loan and the other expenses such as examination of title, preparation of papers etc., would probably amount to forty or forty five dollars. If you should wish the loan on this basis let me know and I will take it up with some of the moneyed men and see if I can secure it for you. I have a party in Loudoun now who is seeking loans of that character and could no doubt make it now if you wish it. Our Bank is too small to handle the credit plan that you suggest. It is only the large banks that do that character of business. I wish we were large enough but as you know Falls Church is not a business place and our bank has not a great opportunity for growth although we are doing very well considering our opportunities.

I find on looking over my rent books which were in George's charge that there has been nothing placed to your credit from rent since December 7th the rent from that time having been used - \$17.70 to pay insurance and the balance being saved up to pay your State and County taxes which according to a memorandum I find in the book amounts to \$81.08. There seems to be money enough in hand now to pay that which I will do at once and so far as I know there being no other accounts to pay the money will be placed to your credit hereafter. March rent was paid on April 10th - April rent has not yet been paid. I mention this as you may want to know how your account stands.

I found among George's effects of your father's estate a diamond stickpin and some other pieces of jewelry. I presume you had directed George what to do with these but I found nothing among his papers showing that and would thank you to let me know your wishes as to the disposition of them. They could be sent to you by registered mail if you wish which I presume would be safe. It would be better to have it insured, however, and I should think the value of the diamond was perhaps two or three hundred dollars and may be more and I have no idea what the other jewelry is worth.

I would like instructions as the handling of the quarry if you wish me to attend to it for you. Mr. Poole is building a house and wanted stone for the foundation and I assumed the authority to tell him to go ahead and get the stone as has usually been done as he is a responsible party and can be trusted to do the square thing, but I would like to have specific instructions if you wish me to handle the matter for you.

I am having some little inquiries for farms now and would suggest that you put a price upon your place in case I have an opportunity to sell it.

I am much interested in your reference to the organization of the Christian Church and meeting at your home and trust that you may be blessed in this effort and that you will grow and increase in numbers and usefulness.

I presume you have been informed of the death of Doctor Page at Fairfax and also of R. C. L. Moncure which occurred Tuesday morning.

Very truly your friend.
M. E. Church

Source: Mary Riley Styles Library
History Room
"Tripp, Percy B."-hanging file