

Cottage City
Colorado Springs, Colo.
Aug. 26, 1927

Dear Dr. Church

I hope Hester has paid up enough by the time to allow you to do something on the 1923 tax account.

I have had a couple of letters from Mr. W. S. Hoge in regard to a balance I was owing him on an original account of \$1000.00. As a matter of fact I have rather favored Mr. Hoge among my creditors so that he has recovered nine tenths of his account, whereas some have not received a large proportion. I did not see how I was going to do anything more for him very soon, but fortunately I received an unexpected check for a small amount a few days ago, so yesterday I sent him a curtailment of \$30.00

But Mr. Hoge seems to be exercised over another matter more than my account due him; he accuses me of owing Miss Emma Read and ignoring the debt. He is altogether off there, for I owe Miss Emma nothing that I know of, whereas, she is under the greatest of obligations to my wife and myself for taking care of her free of charge for a year and a half after the burning of her home. It is probable that Mr. Hoge has in mind a provision in my mother's will giving Miss Emma \$30.00 per annum with the suggestion that she use in payment for a telephone in her home.

During my father's lifetime the amount was paid regularly. After his death, George Mankin, as you know, took charge of affairs for me, and discovering this matter in the will, took it up with one of the attorneys in Fairfax, and discovered that I was under no legal obligation to pay Miss Emma this money, as all my mother's property was completely disposed of in such a way that there was no source of revenue open to secure the amount mentioned, and, if the money were paid, it would simply be an out-and-out gift from my own income. George asked me what I wished to be done in the matter. I instructed him to continue the payments. After George's death and until my return to the States no payment was made, but as soon as Miss Emma had the fire, I paid her up to that time. When she came to live with us, she refused to accept the money, but asked me to apply it on our telephone bill, as she would probably be using the phone as much as we did- (as a fact, she used it considerable more). After she left us nothing was said about the matter until a few days before we left Washington, when Miss Emma asked me something about it, I made no definite reply, for I did not feel that I was in a position to be giving money gifts to anyone as long as I had so many long-standing debts to others, but I hoped to be able sooner or later to let Miss Emma have the money.

I have never let Miss Emma know about the legal opinion in the case, as I did not wish to hurt her feelings, but prepared to let her have the money in accordance with the wish of my mother as expressed in her will, altho not legally bound to do so, - however, I feel that I am entitled to consult my own convenience in the matter.

As Mr. Hoge has mentioned talking it over with you, I thought I had better let you know exactly how the case is.

I should add that the \$1000.00 I originally owed Mr. Hoge was then his taking over a note for that amount which I had given Miss Emma for a loan: she, at the time the loan was made, wished to have her money at interest and was not expecting to have immediate need of the principle, but finding she did need it sooner than expected and I not being in a position to take up the note. Mr. Hoge kindly took it over.

So the matter stands about as this: I owe Mr. Hoge a balance of {illeg} on account of Miss Emma's loan and Mr. Hoge, on the other matter. I have made Miss Emma five gifts in cash of somewhere about \$240.00 and free board and care for a year and a half. I cannot feel that I have been {illeg} a poor blind woman but the world sometimes sees things thru crooked glasses.

Income from apartments will be low for a year, but I hope I will be able to direct part of that little to you for a portion of the accounts you handle for me, possibly as much as \$400.00 before the end of the year.

Our ship of Sept. 5th has had its sailing cancelled and we are expecting to be going on Sept. 11, so we shall remain here until the {illeg} before starting for the coast.

Yours truly
Percy B. Tripp