and pronounced pure & good - If it has not - you had better have a chemist analyze it very carefully and see of what it is composed - Is the water in the stream limestone water - such as is so good for horses and cattle, like that in the much boasted Blue Grass Region - I believe your Farm is in the Blue Grass Region & the Stream should also be - At least Mr Spann gave me to understand it was. Do you have special springs for drinking & household purposes. If the children we saw there the day we stopped were specimens

P.S. shall I sign attitude papers for transfer of land in the Rice Road Land Co.

The Westmoreland -
Washington, D.C.
April 26. 1918 -

Dear Ezra - This morning I made out two checks to you in separate amounts - One was $1500.00 for the Main Street House repairs - and the other was for $3000. to pay Shelbyville Farm expenses - It was two or three hundred more than your items called for, but I suppose you could find use for more - if not, the surplus might go for the Pump to be constructed. Has the water been analyzed

of farm living - it must be a healthy place, for they were both sturdy & roddy - I hope the farm will turn out all right. To my judgment it far surpassed either the Ballard or the Veach Place - in every respect. As far as distance is concerned it seemed to me - the Trolley - made it more accessible than either of the other places -

I hope you will find a nice place for a Tobacco patch on some of the sunny slopes - and also for a little Flax patch - just to see how they will grow - all the Tobacco I saw growing last summer seemed to be on slopes or hill sides and mostly in small protected patches.

We were sorry you could not have brought the children with you to see us, but if you could only spend two or three days here, you could not have time to rest after their journey -

I am enclosing a letter from Mr Swearingen, offering me five shares of his Bank Stock at $210. I suppose it is too late now to take his offer, but you might see about it & let me know - and if you think it a good investment - I will take it. Please thank Mr Swearingen in my name for his offer -

Grace has forwarded her letter with my check and will forward the tax receipts to you by regular mail - Love loving

Frances G. Woodruff

The Westmoreland
Washington D. C.
April 22, 1918

Dear Egoa - Your telegram came in the night - and this morning I am complying with your request to return your Note which you will find enclosed - I will send other papers + Real Estate Book the first opportunity

Please remember I am willing ~~to~~ to pay all necessary expenses for farming but no stock bills as I do hope you

will defer investing in stock until you try out the farm & see if you can live on it yourself - Remember my words - You could not leave fine stock - to a hired herd keeper without endangering them said - Do try and go slowly and buy no fancy or fine stock at present

Love Mother with Love

Grace G. Goodnow

P.S. Grace says she sent your Real Estate book last week with a few other things - Mother

Mary dear - can understand my feelings - except perhaps others who are in the same perdicament - and love their husbands - as I do mine - I'm so proud - yet so lonely and anxious. It has been two weeks now since I've heard from him - but we all will have many anxious times I'm afraid before this war will be over - and I'm doubly proud of Bob - as he could have easily gotten a commission. He said he wouldn't take one for he didn't know a thing about the army!

6544 Fifth Ave -
April 8/1918 -

Dear Mary; -

How glad I was to get your letter this morning. I - too - have thought many a time about you - and often wanted to write - but some way never got to it.

No - I am not going to Reunion this year either. We dont shine much - on the "going back" stuff - do we? Every month - we - Miss Wright's Girls - have a knitting-tea-party - held at the different girls homes. Tillie Bell Chapin and Mellie Wait Bell supply

the yarn - and turn the goods in to Red Cross - under Miss Wright's name - It is very nice to see all the girls - and still it isn't too often to get tired of each other. I don't know much news except that Sara Patterson is going to have a second child!

Yes - I knew that you had a little daughter - and how I'd love to see all your children! William - your brother was in town - soon after - and called me up. I wanted to see him - but I was expecting Thomas III any minute so did not invite him out - I sat around waiting with a trained nurse for two weeks when Bobbie got the Scarlet Fever - and they hustled me off to a Hospital. Had to leave my dear little boy - at a time like that But the nurse I had - had been with me for 3 months - when Bobbie was born - so I felt perfectly O. K. about leaving him in her care

Bob enlisted as a private in the 12th Field Artillery - and has been in France since January. No one

These little pictures I'm enclosing just came to-day - and I thought I'd just send them to show you what two splendid little fellows I've got. They are small but I wanted them especially to send to Daddy. as they will fit in a case - which he already has and can carry in his pocket. Bob wants new pictures about every two months - just to see the changes in his dear little sons -

Do please remember me most kindly to your Mother Father and husband - and write soon again to -

affectionately yours -
Margaret Darsie Morrison

That is why I am staying at Mother's - Shut up my house - and brought my two Kiddies - their nurse - and my little car over here. We have been here since January and I guess will stay till after I bring the children home from Spring Lake. Shall take them to Mother Morrison's for about 6 weeks as hotels are out of the question I think - with children - and it would be far too lonely for me to rent a cottage - Then when we come back I expect to move home. No matter how nice

it is here - it isn't home - And me for home - Besides Bob would rather picture us - as he left us - in our own little home - waiting for him to come back to us.

Five weeks ago - Mother brought Father home from Miami - Florida - on a stretcher. He has diabetes - and gangrene had set in. Part of his foot is gone - but I am happy to say that it looks like he is going to get well. We thought not for a while and all the boys were called home - but Father took a turn for the better -

No - none of my brothers are in the war as yet. Jim is assistant to the chief engineer at Hammond - Indiana the biggest ammunition factory in this country - George and Bill were both not accepted - You know Bill can't see across the room without his glasses - Besides he is building boats at Baltimore - George is going to try again - Bob's young brother is in the Navy - but still on this side -

already explained, is this that knowing your sanguine impulsive way of doing business - I was afraid you would mortgage the farm - the first time you wanted a big sum of money - I know you mortgaged your lot for money - and when I paid off the mortgage - you immediately or very soon after mortgaged it again - The fear of mortgage was my first reason for not turning the farm over to you outright - My other reason - is that if I should give you the farm - I should feel under obligation to give Grace a farm or its equivalent

The Westmoreland -
Washington. D.C.
April 4. 1918

Dear Ezra - Your letter with notes enclosed has just been read to me + I & I am returning them by next mail - signed as you request - I do not think it necessary to telegraph you - as it is almost impossible to get a messenger boy to come up here and I can not get down there -

The reason I did not give you the farm outright in your own name - I have

as it has been and still is my
conviction that Jane and Grace
should have equal shares
and rights in my estate -
And I feel that it would
involve too much or too large
a part of my estate to give
you both another lump sum
of two hundred thousand dollars
as the amount you would
like to expend - if I once or
again begin to give you both
equal amounts - You know as
well as we all know that I
have already given you $150,000
at different times -
And now as I have written to
Jane I am willing to pay the
the expense of your cultivating
the Farm and of putting your
house + garden in order - Those
expenses belong to the Farm and
I am willing to pay for them - both
for cultivating the Land + improving
the residence + water facilities -
But you ask for 100,000 in a lump
sum, which you seem to think is
nothing - but would mean $20,000
as I would have to give Grace a
like amount - When I said you
could use your business money
after you had closed out - you
would use it for stocking the Farm
+ could always keep your account
separate + take out the amount you
put in from your own personal

P.S. In cultivating your Farm I am willing to help you to any reasonable amount. You all know that Farmers do not put in large fortunes into their farming for they are people who have little money and use what they have to the best advantage - and as you are an experimenter - I have been telling you right along - that as it is only an experiment with you that you must be careful and try to make things pay as you go along - You will have to learn by degrees how to farm - you cant do everything at the start - Go slowly & carefully and learn as you go - In the advice of your Mother, H. G. Woodruff

account - and not let it become involved in the Farm account -

I do not understand why you mix up the closing out of your business with the Farm - It seems to me there is no connection or bearing of the Farm with your business -

And I do not understand why you still want money to buy & buy & run up more debts in your business - You promised me last summer that you would close out your business in the Fall - and then you said you would close out in the Spring & now You want more

which the Government has allowed them to cultivate as farm lands - which is a part of the Park - They had just begun to put in the plow - although they had not finished in clearing off the last year's rubbish -

I have been waiting to get your report about the transfer of the Riber Bottom lands - as you told me you were going to see Mr Botts about the exchange - and would let me know -

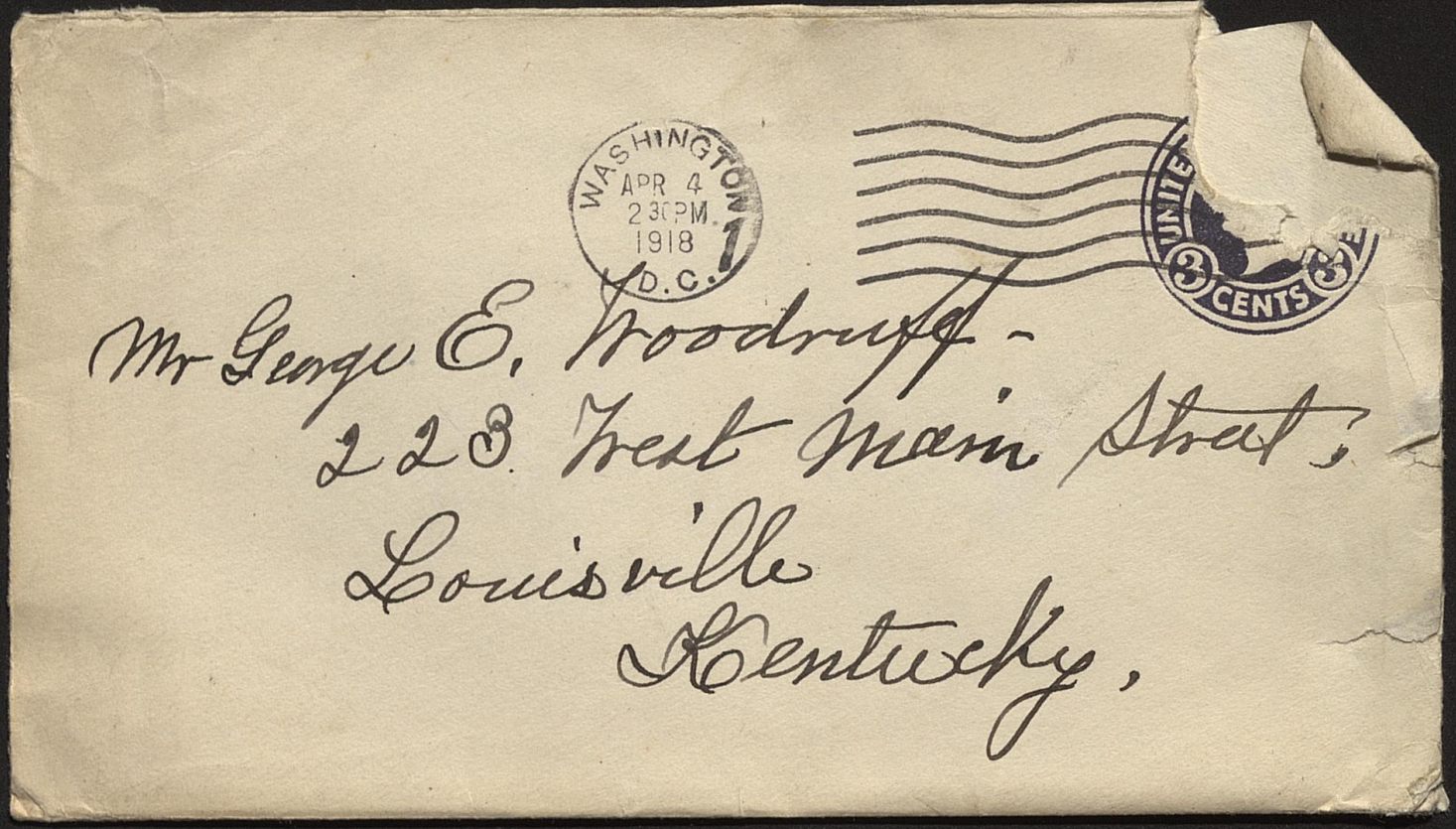
I will bunch up your book & papers, tax receipts & express them to you - wishing you success both in business & farm - I am your devoted Mother

Frances G. Woodruff

note signed and propose closing out next Fall - I only wish I could tell you how to manage to close out - so that you would have nothing but the Farm to manage - It seems to be like an endless chain to be going on and on -

But remember that which I have already told you - that I am willing to help you in cultivating the fields as well as putting the dwelling in order - In any reasonable amount -

I drove down to the Speedway yesterday again to see the Airplanes practising in flying and came back by the Boy Scouts old corn fields



Mr George E. Woodruff -
223 West Main Street -
Louisville
Kentucky,

Mrs. Percy Newhall Booth

2429 Longest Avenue

which building you have reference to - but it is to be supposed it is the one nearest Fourth avenue formerly occupied by Norton & Cardoza the wholesale coffee store - Is the Anita Building rented - and is Gracia main strat house still rented - Service of all kinds is very slow in Washington - They never send me a telegram until the day after it is received - and I never like to answer a Phone message from the Telegraph Office as there are as many mistakes made that way. I suppose you have my answer by this time as it is now 5. P.M Saturday afternoon and you will get this letter early

The Westmoreland -
Washington, D. C -
March 23. 1918

My dear Egra - Your telegram was received late last evening and I went down this morning to send a reply - in which I told you I would be willing, to put the Main Strat Building in repair - for $1500 (which I believe the figure you mentioned) in order to lease it for five years at seventy - five dollars a month. I think it would be much better than having it empty and be running down all that time. Your telegram did not mention

Monday morning - in time to accept the mans offer for 75 per month for five years and to start in repairs on the Building before Leaving -

I wrote to you before you started to Chicago that I would be willing to help you put the Dwelling or residence on the Shelby Ville Farm in living order in other words that I will be glad to pay the bills for papering Painting Plumbing &c - I also shall be glad to pay for any repairs that are necessary on the fences - gates &c and also to pay my share for the Water Pumps pipes &c & engine - I am also willing to pay for any necessary tools & implements which I thought Mr Spann would have left for you - Did you not pay him a considerable sum for everything he left behind - I do not understand why you do not explain to me the exact condition of everything about the Farm - which I think I ought to know as I am willing and will be glad to help you out - But I do not feel that I can turn over to you a lump sum of ten or 15 thousand dollars - just to spend on expensive high cost cattle - or to build fancy outhouses - and barns - as I think you should go slowly at first and see what you really need - Besides

in the world without making any more than is absolutely necessary, I told you I would buy you a new Liberty Loan Bond as soon as they are to be had — but when you get it — do not sell it but keep it for the interest you will draw from it — to help in supporting your family — As you say you are my best friend and I am your best friend — so how much better it is for us to work together —

Grace does her part most valiantly and cheerfully and attends to all my business for me — which is no small matter — Why should you not help me a little by doing your part too — So let us stand together faithfully

Lovingly Mother Fannie E. Woodruff

2 If you spend thousands of dollars on stock — and expensive implements — and then after the summer is over — you will leave everything to the tender mercies of a hired keeper — & come in town — what will be the result — That is why I think it would be better for you to go carefully & slowly and bring your farm up to a fine condition by degrees — It will be a much better way than to plunge in head foremost and find yourself swamped —

You know if you had pursued that course with your business

You know I am too old to become an Accountant — or to understand your accounts, I wish you had not sent it to me Of course I cannot trouble Grace to do anything with it. It is as much as she can do to make out my Income Tax and a thousand other things and to cut coupons — I should think you being the Man of the Family — would do all you can to help me — but upon poor Grace you want to shift all the responsibility — I hope I am mistaken as I want & need all the help you can give me my expenses are very heavy with the war taxes & Income taxes & what not — There is trouble enough

you never would have gotten in so deeply that you can not get out — I do hope you will be able to get out of the Paint business safely and have some assets left to help you on the Farm — "Slow and Sure" is far better — than rushing headlong and plunging in to you know not what depth —

An Express package has just come — I opened it & found a book I suppose of your accounts — What shall I do with this Book, I do not understand it & can do nothing with it Please let me know what to do with it

P. S. Loyall Watson has at last succeeded in getting a Commission in the Army Engineer Corps — he tried every thing finally passed his examination as an Engineer You know he was a Civil Engineer when war first broke him — He has a First Lieutenancy. I think his father finally helped — You know the Admiral knows how to use his friends in Power and work wires — But Loyall is delighted — that he has gotten in at any rate —

Do get out of the Paint business the sooner the better - Your Farm is there and you can have the house put in order but do it carefully and conservatively be careful to get contracts and understand just what is needed - and see that you get the worth of your money and see that the work is well done - Do not go along with your nose in the air - and give your orders as if you owned the earth - and you must not think it beneath you to look after the workers and see that

R. Watmorland -
Washington. D. C.
March 11. 1918.

My dear Egra

I wrote to you yesterday and enclosed a list of cancelled checks which I gave you during last year, 1917. And in regard to closing out your business - please do not misunderstand me - You can not get out of it too soon. I have for several years been urging you not to buy any more goods but to sell out entirely - And now You talk about going more deeply - Please do not

they serve you well and econom-
ically - Your Uncle George always
looked after his own affairs &
was careful not to be imposed
upon & no one took advantage of him
You could hire a gardener who
has his own plough & other
farming implements and start in
your garden and ~~see~~ see that the
Man on the Place who is care
taker - does his share - If you
think farming is just spending
my money freely - you should
soon dismiss that idea - I am,
willing to put the house in living
order, so that it will be comfortable
- but get your estimates first

and do not give rough guesses,
and make your figures up in
the sky - Let me know what the
painting and papering will cost -
and then see that the plumber
gives you correct estimates - and
I am willing to help you - But I
cant afford to turn money over
to you by the thousands for you
to tell your men to "go a head"
"just go ahead" - I know how freely
you spend your Money - or my
money - and you must not mistake
me when I say I am willing to help
you which I am - but only in a
careful - painstaking - conservative way
A Farm would soon absorb
every penny I have - if you

carry out your ideas - and spend it - in your free fashion.

Now there is one thing I want you to do - and that is to begin from the first of January to send Grace the rent of the main Store - House - You have no right to use it - or to withhold it - the house is hers and she should have the rent each month - and if there are any repairs necessary - let me know - By keeping your interests separate - you will avoid all future trouble as well as present misunderstandings - If you are correct and accurate and

business - like - You should be
business - like with your own people
just as you should always be
with others - It is a mighty
good plan and the best way to
avoid all misunderstandings - to do
all business correctly with
your own people -

How much will you need to
plough the corn field and put
in the corn -

How much money have you
already gotten out of the peach
business - in your bank account -
Let me know what Mr Botts says
about putting the little house in
repair - They should leave it in re
pair - before trading - I certainly should
not bear the whole expense

Your Mother
Francis G. Woodruff

in your circumstances, and I do not understand why you did not count the cost before plunging in to it. A small insurance would have been all right if you could stand it. I have asked Grace to make out the list of the cancelled checks which are in my books. This amount does not include any of my rent money from real estate, which you spent on the farm, nor your coupons which I gave you last June those which Grace sent you last month all amounting to more than a thousand dollars. I will enclose the list of amounts of cancelled checks. Of course you are welcome to what I have given you or I want

The Westmoreland -
Washington - D. C. March 9 1918.

Dear Ezra - Your letter with enclosures came a day or so ago - and I will re-read them over and consider their contents. Grace cut your coupons last week and sent you them in a registered letter - which I trust has reached you safely as they amount to Five hundred and seventeen dollars ($517). a nice big sum. Of course it is your insurance on your life which worries you to pay. It is not wise for you to have taken out such a large insurance

to help you in reason, but I did not realize you were going to buy more paints and do not understand why you are making arrangements with a Chicago House to keep up buying — Of course I see you are in a quandary as to, how to get out of business, but it seems to me you are planning to get into it more deeply by taking a retail house and paying a big rent — wherein you had no rent to pay in the Main Street house —

I will help you fix up the Farm House and to do necessary things for your comfort, but I do not feel like spending thousands of dollars on stocking it & building

The reason I do not send the hundred dollars every month is because I have called upon to pay so many of your expenses & I never bargained to carry your life Insurance for you — It is very generous and big hearted on your part to provide so liberally for your family but it is not business like to go beyond your depths —

My Taxes, Income & War taxes are going to be very large this year — and I do not think it wise to spend my entire income some of it should be re-invested for your sake & Grace's — I hope you are all well & I will try and do what I can for you, your loving & devoted

Mother Frances G. Woodruff

P.S. How about the Robinson and Norton Stock – do I get only par value – or do I not benefit by the Surplus – I placed it in the hands of the American Security Bank & they sent it in and altho I have not heard from them they credited my book with only $2500 plus $12 interest for one month – Let me know what I should get & see about it for me. I have not signed the transfer papers yet for the Bottom lands – and I did not receive to my recollection your real Estate Book –

Do you advise me not to sign until the house is repaired on Attla's land &

Your loving Mother
Frances G. Woodruff

The Westmoreland –
Washington, D. C.
March 2. 1918.

My Dear Egra –

Enclosed I am sending you the check for $4000.00 made payable to the National Bank of Kentucky – This I trust will be your last call for such huge amounts of money – and I trust you may receive it in time – You certainly "think" in large sums – and I would soon be left high and dry – very soon – if I continue to listen to your demands – but you must understand that

The limit has been reached.
& you must ask me for no
more money - Make the best of
what you have and stop
buying - Consult me first before necessary
expenses are required.
The Spring is now on its way
March came in like a Lamb
Yesterday and to-day - The willows
branches are turning green faintly
Trusting you are all well and
with love & the check inclosed
I am your devoted Mother
Frances G. Woodruff

Over

I can give you no more for a
long time and shall try to have
my will re-written so that the
Trust Co may control it - for my
dear Son - with your free hand in
spending - there would be nothing
left for you & your family
after you have went into your
hands - I wrote to you last
night and explained in how very
embarrassing a position you
place me by telling everybody
that comes along - "to go ahead"
and spend my money - and
now you must stop it - or I
will not stand by you -

away and you will have to wait to get your money out of your "Paint" business, before you can invest in farming. I feel that I have invested quite as much as I should in farms - otherwise I will soon be bankrupt. Are you aware that I gave you last year thirteen thousand dollars besides paying sixty thousand for the farm, thus going far beyond my income. I have not recovered my breath yet - from this enormous expenditure - Mr Egan ordered

The Westmoreland -
Washington, D. C.
March 1. 1918

My dear Egra - Your long distance telegram phone quite alarmed me as I thought something serious had happened - Grace answered for me & told you I would send you telegram which I did this morning - I really think you should close out your business, before you begin to spend any more money on the farm - The farm will not run

was a shrewd man - you might say a "Sharper" and certainly got the best of us - If you had not been in such hot haste and held off, we could have gotten a better bargain - besides - he should have given me a written statement of the condition of the Farm in detail - I should have been informed of every building & shed and all the Water Sources - and condition of them, both pumps, and Spring of every Sort of Fencing and all the Gateways and their condition whether they needed repairs and to what extent - all of this information was due me before I signed the bargain - but you were in such a tremendous hurry that without even letting me know he had consented to sell it you had fixed a day for me to sign the check - now you must see your mistake, when you talk about calling upon me to pay for repairs - the repairs should have been made, before any money passed from me -

Now say you are placed in a very embarassing situation - just only think how much more embarassing a situation I am placed - when you call on me

not to know how yourself
The Norton-Robinson Firm have
liquidated - other business
people close out - find out
how they do it - then you will
know how to do it also -
You certainly have my sympathy
they - but I know giving you
more money is only letting
you deeper in the mine, so
you must try & get out of the
Point business - get rid of some
of your stock by an auction -
Wishing & praying you may have
wisdom, - but dont agree to spend any
more of my money without my consent is
the swish of your devoted Mother H.G. Tudyk

to pay for your hasty and
unnecessary mistakes - Why
should you for a moment
wish any one to think you
own the Farm - every body
knows you do not - and
why tell that man to go ahead
when he proposes to make
a new Pump - he will cheat
you and take every advan-
tage of you - Do not tell
him to go ahead - but tell
him you will look into it yourself
- and before taking any
step - say to him I am only
my mother's agent and can -

act without first consulting her - I cannot imagine why you should for a moment try to sail under false colors. Country people are very shrewd - and sharp and will cheat you every time unless you put up an honest strait-forward front and demand your rights - Don't pretend you are rich. You can fix up the residence with fresh paint + paper - It looked all right to me last summer - with that exception - You can spend the summer there + hire a man to make you a garden for your own use - and get acquainted with the situation without spending a fortune on fancy stock and other fancy things - Good money which when once it passes from you is gone for ever - and let me tell you - you had better hold on to your money. You have plenty of time to consider these various questions and above all get out of your present business - before you begin to farm - get advice from Mr Bolte or some other older man how to manage to get out of your business as you can

P.S. How shall I make out the check for the money you have borrowed from the Bank – What Bank is it & who is the President & Vice President – Shall I send the check to you or directly to the Bank –

What shall we do about the Varnish Co Stock – Shall I write to Mr Botts and ask him to transact the sale thro the Trust Co. or do you know of another better way. Let me know as soon as you can – Hoping you are all well and with much love I am

Yours devoted Mother

Frances G. Woodruff

P.S. Let me know when you get these two checks

Mother —

The Westmoreland —
Washington. D.C. —
February 25. 1918,

Dear Ezra —

Enclosed you will find two checks — one for expenses in the Bluff Sites Roadway and I hope this will be the last one — It is the third or 4th check I have sent them — $98.98/100 $100 — Practically

The other check is for the two insurance Policies — one $159.53 the other $47.10 total $206.63 I wish you would keep a record of every dollar

I spend on the Farm for you -
I will have to study a long
hard time in the Farm question -
In regard to your business
get out of the 223 house
at once - why not go into
one of our own houses - I
do not understand why you
keep up buying - I have been
persuading you to quit buying
for the last two or three
years - four years ago
in fact - I urged you to
stop buying + offer only
what stock you had

in hand for sale - Why not move
into the Amiler House and sell
out from there. Have an auction
or get advice from Mr Botts -
what to do to get rid of
your stock - Sell it at auction
and do it quickly - Move at
once into one of our empty houses
and Sell out. Can you do
that? I will return the top receipts
Why did you send them. Mother

None of the P. G. Concerns have ever done me the honor of sending me a Proxy - not even the Varnish Co. that I can remember - The Power of Attorney is not the same as the Proxy - is it - I now would the power of Attorney give them unlimited power to act - is it wise and best to give them the Power of Attorney -

Please do not give any orders for machinery to the agent soliciting such orders - You have much too free a hand in spending my money - You do not know what machinery is actually necessary - I think I have spent enough

February 18. 1918.

Hy Westmoreland.
Washington. D. C.

My dear Egoe - I wrote to you some days ago and enclosed a check for Taxes on our property - I think I told you a check had come from the Varnish Co - 343 & were the figures - from the Fidelity - Columbia people at the Stockholders meeting to represent us - I asked you if I should give them the Power of Attorney - you replied that I had better ask them to send me a Proxy to sign for them

money for the farm, without going any deeper into expenditures -

If you had left the buying of the farm to me I should have held off until now or even later, when I think we could have made a much better bargain - and you should have gone out there and most carefully gone into every detail until you knew by heart the condition of every building and plank in each building - You acted as free handed and so impulsively that Mr Spann saw what a careless fellow you were and what an easy mark you proved to be, that he not only raised his price in every thing, but took advantage of you. And you must go cautiously and extremely careful about what you do - You do not know now what condition the farm is in, nor do you know any thing about the buildings and improvements - So I shall advance no money at present nor do I think of giving you a note Blanche - For I know you to be a careless and free spender and I will not stand for any money you spend - Please understand that -

You certainly sent money

you have closed out, you will know what you can afford to buy stock and other farming necessities — but when I bought that Farm I supposed all of the improvements were in it —

You ask about my giving you one of the new issues Liberty Bonds — On one condition that you keep it and draw interest on it, I will give you one for your Birth Day gift —

Hoping we can arrange to see each other soon later on — Grace joins me in love

Your devoted Mother

Frances G. Woodruff

on the River Road Farm that did not belong to you and that you certainly had no right to spend — And I must tell you plainly that you need not begin that game with this Shelbyville Farm —

Neither Grace nor I like the name you have selected for the Shelbyville Farm — and do not see why you went to the expense of having a printing made out before we agreed upon a name for the Farm There is no haste about giving it a name until we have become better acquainted

It is too cold for you to travel and the Rail Road Service is stell very bad - trains are all late and cars crowded, Washington is very much overcrowded at present - has been since last summer. The Hotels are full and all the Apartments are over full, You will have to give up the Dog Show this year + stay at home and work up your business You surely have had time to close out your business. I know here, but I fear you keep up buying more goods all the time. Why not put your business in the hands of the Trust to close it out - and then after with the Sam - What did it cost you to have the bill head made out - It seems to me you are too fond of wasting your money - I shall have my Will changed and put the whole thing into the hands of a Trust Co so that you can not waste your patrimony - I should love to see you all - and would love to have you visit us - and to that end I tried to get a small Apartment on this floor when I first returned last summer but everything was taken and the one I had selected was rented to some Rodmans from Kentucky an old lady + daughter -

to pay my taxes from the Broadway House rent — I must say I like a more systematic and business-like method of keeping accounts. I like figures giving me from month to month just exactly what I take in and what is given out. Last Summer I wondered where you got the money to buy stock and put up fences and gates — expecting you to render me an exact statement of what you were spending — and I still

[1918]

The Westmoreland —
Washington, D. C.
February 14. 1918

My dear Ezra —

Your last two letters have just come and I will send you the check for $900.00 to pay my taxes for 1917, trusting it will not be too late for the discount — I think it strange you did not notify me sooner — It is appalling that you did not save enough money

wish to know just what you spent - dollar for dollar on the Farm - Is not the Farm a partnership shared by the other owners as to expenses Of course I know that I keep up the house & barn, but I am not aware that I pay in full for the farming expenses

I have no idea of putting up any barns or other buildings on the Shelbyville Farm. It was my impression that I was buying an improved Farm with all the necessary barns - chicken houses - implement house etc already on it and told you to go out and look over every thing and see that you were not being cheated. Surely you have not let the man Spears impose on you & not only pay him an exhorbitant price for the farm but also expect me to put improvements on it - Tours are certainly an easy mark - I do not like the name you propose - nor any name beginning with Vox Warbley is ugly & not to my liking - I have not been able to write and am not well now but will enclose the taxes check for $900.00 which is unreasonable

2 Why did you send me
the Robinson-Norton Cer-
tificates - Why did you not
get the Trust Co to collect
the amount coming to me &
have them place it to my
credit - Shall I give
them "power of Attorney"
to act for me in the
varnish works question,
they will impose on you
I fear, you are too easy
and indifferent in money
matters, especially my
money affairs - Why dont
you wake up and
show some spirit and

Good common sense —
I am surprised that you
do not know how to close
out your business — Why
not get advice from the
Trust Company & close out,
this Sporting instead of going
to Lexington so much and
wasting your time, You need push
I would like to have you & may
come to see us — but this
Apartment is packed in like
Sardines — and so are all the
apartments & Hotels — I tried to
get another apartment last fall
for you but they were all
taken — Read with care
the clipping from N. Y. Times — enclosed

3 - This clipping shows how careful you must be not to be imposed upon & to watch carefully that no one injures your land with Polen or Fungus =

When you get ready to move out to the Farm it will be time to paint & paper the dwelling - but you must use the out houses already on the place and when you get the money out of your business - then you can talk about stocking the Farm.

Write me why you sent me the R & N - Certificate of Stock - very anxiously Your Mother

Frances G Broadwell

February 2, 1918.

(P.S. Please attend in detail to my letter)

The Westmoreland -

Washington. D. C.

Dear Ezra -

We have heard from the Columbia & Fidelity Trust Co in regard to the P. G. Dividends and the Lead and Color Works - but as yet have no news from the Varnish Works - and I enclose the notification that 35. 370. 00 have been placed to my credit in my Savings account from the P. G. + Lead & Color Works in the F & C. Trust Co Bank - Will

(Please do everything I ask you at once)

You not make some inquiry as to why I have heard nothing from Mr Callahan

You remember they sent me a paper telling of changing some of their common into Preferred Stock - I sent you the notification, trusting you would attend to the matter & let me know if it would be well for us to buy some of their preferred Stock - But did not hear from you in regard to it.

I enclose Mr Batts paper about making a giving him power of Attorney and also

the notification of placing the named amount to my Saving Account Credit —

Please return them to me and let me know whether I had better give them Power of Attorney — Please take time to attend to these matters for me —

Shall I make out the check for the Fire Insurance on the Farm + send it to you, or have you already paid it in — Let me know at once please — Congratulate you on making those figures profit in your business, it means a great deal to come out ahead —

I have not thought about a name for the Farm but I think it will be a good idea to change it from the Bear Oak to another name of your own choosing

I am also enclosing the Morla + Robinson request to send me their certificates to have them attended to by a Notary Public + I will return them to you for collection

Trusting you are all well and with much love I am

Yours devoted Mother

Frances G Woodruff

fine!

I believe I've already written I've been transfered to a new company in the battalion and am very busy training them. It was considered a compliment, but it meant some work! They are conscripted men, just from the States - I find them intelligent and eager to learn, but oh! so green! They are from the far northwest. It is odd mixing them with the regular army, isn't it? From all the festivities I hear of, I'm afraid the men at Camp T. are going to be very much spoiled before they get over.

I've lots of real news, but our censorship makes it impossible to write it - you don't know how hard it is! Dinner is ready, so I must cut this short - will write more soon. Best love

My Dear Mary & George: Jan 20, 1918

My box of Folgers candy and my combination pouch with pipe and the wristlets arrived yesterday. I was about the most popular officer around here with that candy - it was certainly delicious!

The pipe and pouch are just what I wanted - in fact I had just laid in a supply of pipe tobacco, and as for my wristlets, you would not have to be here many minutes this time of the year to appreciate their worth. It's fine to be remembered, but to get really useful presents is wonderful. One officer received a neck-tie the other day - we all laughed until it hurt!

I got a letter from Mother dated Dec 3 last night in which she said how much better Louise is - it is certainly

to the kids and Mother & Father. Again thanking you, I remain,

Yours Very Affectionately

William

From-
Lieut W. C. Dabney
26th Infantry
A. E. F. via New York.

quite uneasy - Why did you not consult with Ned Booker & other men - Do you not know of any good honest single minded Lawyer who would for the sake of honesty would do the fair thing by us. It seems to me you should have studied up this question of an Attorney as soon as Mr Gibson died - Do not do not keep your eyes open on our business affairs - you are too apt to dawdle & procrastinate It is time you were waking up to be a man and not be dilletante - In regard to the

The Westmoreland -
Washington - D C -
January 17. 1918.

My dear Ezra - Your letter in regard to a lawyer to represent our interest in the P. G. Concern - fills me with apprehension - Mr Botts may be fair with us - but I do not have much faith in him - he can be two sided and has not always stood by me fairly & squarely - as his position as president of the Great Co naturally gives him the temptation "to be all things to all men" As I am

Wheat Crops on the Farm - You must keep your eyes open & not use any powders or other fertilizers - until you have thoroughly examined them as the German Propoganda is are sending over here in their usual way agents to work into the Farms - such fertilizers as will ruin American Wheat Crops Now is the time to put your Chemistry into practical use and not to go mooning about book chemistry - Examine every thing yourself, and see that you are not duped and imposed upon - and for the sake of making yourself agreeable and getting on in the estimation of your so called Louisville friends or men of position - let some one agent or friend impose upon you. Dont say go ahead - it is all right. That is a very weak point of yours - You think you will make friends by giving very lavishly & doing foolish things like contributing large sums to every cause to make yourself popular - Stop it and do some thinking of your own & stand on your own feet - and be your own Man. Chemists are in great demand & if you could only have done something in Chemistry - you could command a high position now - I thought you passed the Farm Insurance etc

and the Silo expenses with the money on the note I sent you so I had not done so, thinking you had attended to it - I will look it up now -

You say you cant make much profit on your sales because things are so high - Surely you are not buying more goods - Why not stick to what you have on hand and make only special sales of what you have - It is crazy to keep up buying -

I had no idea of engaging a Bullet to serve me - I rate them as I do Helm Bruce as unsafe for me - they may be good for the rich - but not for me if you

If you please - I most sincerely trust Helen Bruce is not Mr Bott's legal adviser. ~~Can~~ You find out - If he is - Farewell to my interests - I hope most sincerely he is not to have anything to do with my affairs -

Give my love to Mary & the children -

Your devoted but anxious Mother

Frances C. Woodruff

P.S. Do not let the man on the Farm have anything to do with fertilizing your lands - as the Germans Spice may get in & do mischief - to Farm lands - Mother -

I suppose it is all right to have the Trust Co represent us, especially as Mr Crawford is one of their lawyers being connected with the Dulin-Trabue & Cox Firm — Did you send Mr Crawford his check for $50. — If not I will enclose it — & you can destroy it — if you have already sent him his fee. Write immediately when their stockholders meetings occur and tell me all you know & hear. I have just had the house dismantled of the Christmas greens & flowers. Your basket was very pretty — I hated to have it sent out — of course I kept the basket, & will always treasure it

The Westmoreland —
Washington, D. C. —
January 15, 1918.

Dear Ezra — I have just gotten off the telegram to the Fidelity & Columbia Trust Co ~~off~~ and also one for you by the same messenger boy —

I do not remember that I ever received a Proxy from any of the P. G concerns — either P. G. Varnish or Lead & Color Works — that is why I wrote you some time ago to find out through Ned Booker when the meetings occurred so that you would have time to secure a Lawyer or some one to represent us

as a part of your Xmas gift –
I sent you the books and also the children their books for Xmas. Grace selected them for me as the weather was so stormy for me to venture out.

I think we should be so grateful for our many blessings and especially for the recovery of little Louise & the well being of the little boys & you & many all the family seem to have kept pretty well but Grace who has been laid up with bronchitis & Grippe she is better to day – and is now talking to Frances Webster who wants her to go to the Movies with her but she does not dare to venture out – although the sun is shining so brightly & the wind is blowing a gale – but the walks are very icy & slippery.

The enclosed check is made out in your name which I enclose but it is to pay Mr Crawford the fee for Mr Gibson's services –

We saw Ethel, Wallace's wife but we did see Lucy the Daughter who was already placed in school out in the Country – when we called –

Grace joins me in love to you all

Your devoted mother

Frances G. Woodruff

as well as the Doctors -
Since you & I paid the foolish
high price for the farm - they
will take you for an easy
mark and squeeze you at
every turn - Our income
has already shrunk - and
will be less & less - You
may have to get to work to
earn money - So many have gone
to the war - you should not
find it very difficult to get
a position on a Salary
I cannot send you a hundred
dollars a month any longer

The Westmoreland
Washington - D. C. -
January 3. 1918 -

P.S. Love to Mary & the children hope you are all well mother.

Dear Ezra - When I
wrote to you last I forgot
to mention - or to ask about
what lawyer we will get to
represent us at the Peasla Gaulbert
meeting to declare dividends. Be
sure to get a good one and
let me know - Find out all
you can about what they
are going to declare in do
You will have to be on your
guard about our affairs
Every body will take all
vantage of you - The lawyers

Does the man still pay a hundred per month for the 17th & Broadway corner - and are any of the main street houses rented - let me know please if Grace's house is bringing in anything. She wants it. Grace says she wants ~~[illegible]~~ just as much as you get and if I send you a hundred dollars a month I shall have to give the same to her - so I shall stop yours as it only makes you wasteful and loose in your spending - Fancy prices for dogs and cattle must stop - you simply must hedge as I can not give you anything more - you will have to wake up & get to work & do something - you have been dawdling and playing long enough. Cant you get rid of your remaining stock without paying Otto and your Porter - a will it be better to push Spring trade with what you have. Be sure to get Robinson & Norton's shares in money that are coming to you and also attend to the Traction Railway Shares - Keep your eyes open and dont go around with your head in the Air - as if you owed a future -

Lucas Smoller Francis G. Broadway

you sent enclosing the Great Co's report of the Gaulbert Realty Company came to day but it was wide open when it reached me. I hope there was no check taken from it, nor anything else of value. I must tell you too - that the Xmas box of goodies - pickles, preserves etc was broken open too pieces of wood have been broken from it and three jars or glasses were crushed and their contents spoiled - one was Chow-chow one pickled peaches and one jelly. I thought perhaps the box looked like a Whisky box - and it was

The Westmoreland -
January 1st 1918
Washington. D C,

Dear Egbert - Grace and I wish you and Mary & the dear little children a very happy New Year - this cold & windy morning - This town is in the grip of a cold wave - not zero - but nearly as. Just 2 above early this a. m - It is gradually moderating and the sun is shining so we can hope for better things - The envelope

inspected for that reason or perhaps the crowd and rush of mail matter and express made the railroad people careless

You must see Mr Botts about the Louisville Traction Company and get my shares that are coming to me.

You will have to surrender my shares to have them transferred into the new stock, I want you to attend to this matter as promptly as possible and as thoroughly as possible

The Robinson - Norton matter should be attended to - at once do not delay - and let me know how much I will get out of it -

Please do these things - there are many other things for you to do - I hope you are well and can do these things for me - it is time to wake up and not let people impose on you as they have been doing - You assume the air of owning the world but you will have to change your attitude and not be imposed upon -

With much love - and hoping for better things from you - Your devoted Mother

Frances G. Woodruff