

Eugene Ware correspondence

Section 120, Pages 3571 - 3600

This is a series of correspondence to and from Eugene Fitch Ware (1841-1911). Ware moved to Fort Scott, Kansas, after the Civil War and became employed at the Fort Scott Monitor. In 1879, Ware began the first of three terms in the Kansas State Senate. During his terms of office, Ware introduced bills concerning railroads, life insurance, militia, and relief and support of the poor as well as bills of a more local nature. Ware moved to Topeka in 1893 to become a partner with Charles Gleed and his brother, James, forming the law firm of Gleed, Ware and Gleed. In addition to journalism, law, and politics, Ware used the pseudonym, Ironquill, for his literary and poetic achievements. His works include "Neutralia" and "The Rhymes of Ironquill". For a complete contents list of the papers of Eugene Fitch Ware, see the External Links below.

Date: 1871-1939

Callnumber: Eugene Fitch Ware Coll. #86, Boxes 3 - 26

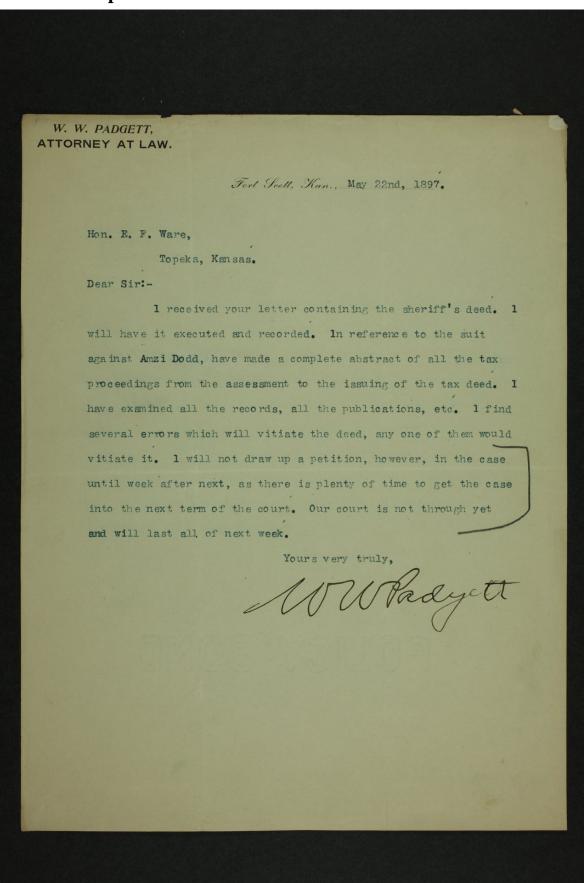
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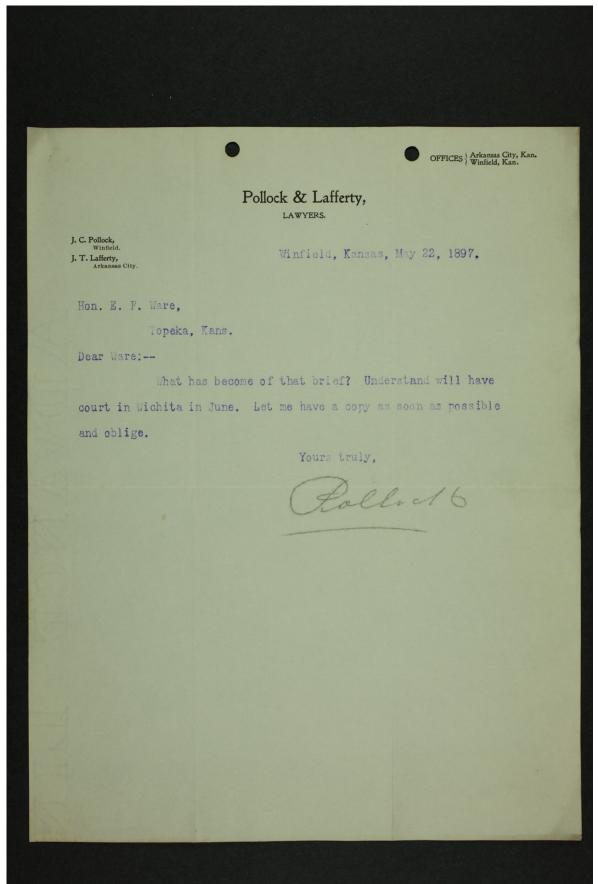
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Topeka, Kansas, May 22nd, 1897.

E.F. Ware, Esq.,

Topeka, Kansas.

My Dear Mr. Ware:-

I did not have the pleasure of participating in the banquet given last evening at the Hotel Throop by the Commertial Club, for the very good reason that I was not sufficiently urged to be present. I should have been pleased to have been present on account of the gastronomical possibilities, but especially would I have been pleased to have been able to have heartily applauded the sentiments expressed in your speech.

I want to congratulate you with all my heart for the fortitude and nerve displayed in fearlessly expressing your real thoughts and views in the presence of an assembly, in the majority of whose hearts I thoroughly believe there exists the same convictions and thoughts as expressed by you, but whose moral courage is of such a quality that they dare not publicly express them; who have not the courage to face the "public finger."

The Capital's editorial of your speech is a pleasant revelation of a fact of which the business community has been heretofore in ignorance and I think a vote of thanks is due the Capital from the business community for making and so thoroughly proving the statement that this is one of the most prosperous states in the Union and that we are in so much better financial condition than our sister states, and that the elements producing prosperity in a business way are round and among us, and that the possibilities of profit are on every hand.

Those who have been in touch with the business pulse have evidently been laboring under an egregious and mistaken idea that times were



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and are hard, that peo e were close run and that liness and trade enterprises were experiencing considerable difficulty in making expenses to say nothing of profits.

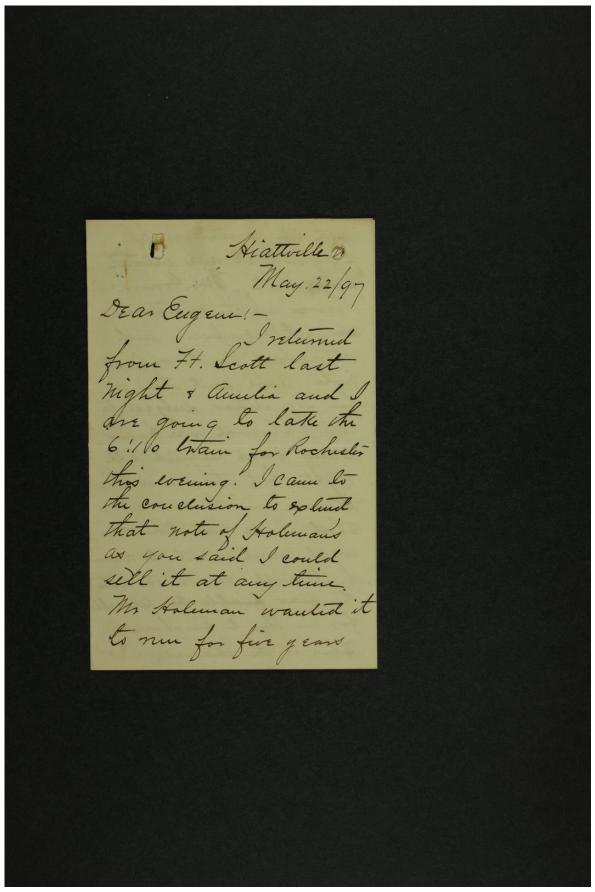
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The amounts charged off to profit and loss by the various banks in this City alone within the past few years would be a very strong argument in the hands of the Capital as an evidence of the prosperous condition that they mention. The amounts so charged off don't represent dishonesty or thievery, but do represent simply hardupness and depreciation.

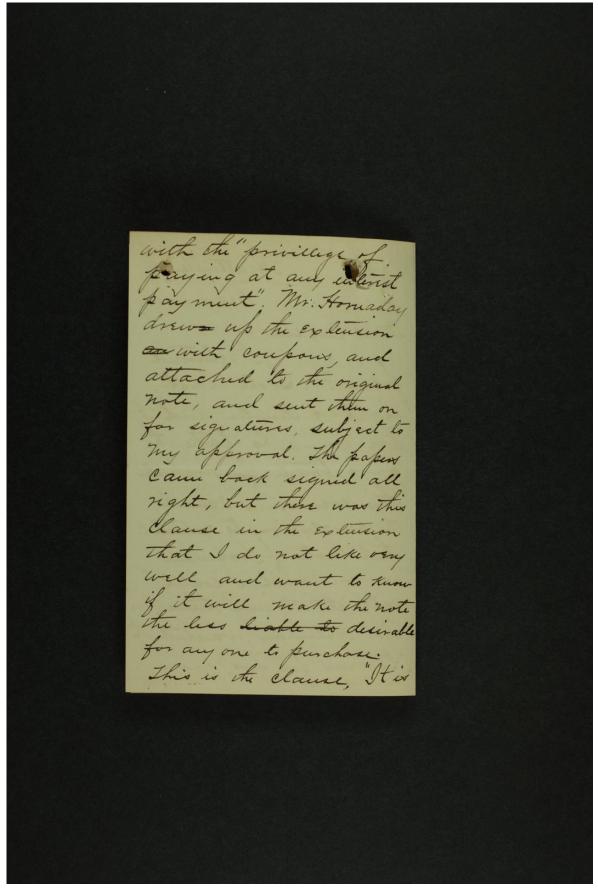
None of those most prominently identified with the rigorous enforcement of the prohibitory law, with but one or two exceptions, have been able, to the best of my knowledge and belief, to count themselves among the fairly well to do in this world's goods, nor have they been able to accumulate and pile up large quantities of dollars out of a business connection with the prosperous condition as depictured by the Capital in answer to your speech; and if those who can count themselves among the fairly well to do had had their business operations confined to the limits of the State, I doubt if they would be much better off than the others.

I don't pose as a large tax payer myself, but I am in daily contact with those who are and I am heartily tired of having people who don't pay taxes and who have nothing in the State to speak of, lay down lines upon which the City government must be operated and under which I think it is susceptible of proof the City is losing from twenty-five to fifty thousand dollars annually of revenue, and with no better condition of morals than at Leavenworth, Atchison, Wichita and other Cities where different conditions exist. I am thoroughly of the opinion that if the majority of the business people would speak out their true beliefs as you have fearlessly and with the courage of their convictions, a very different condition would exist both in our City and State. Again congratulat Very truly yours, ing you, I beg to remain,

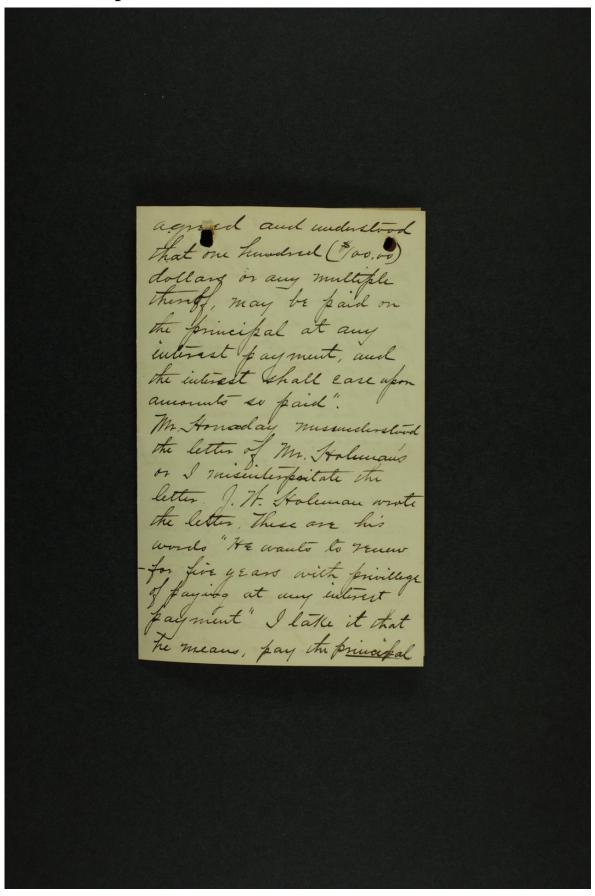




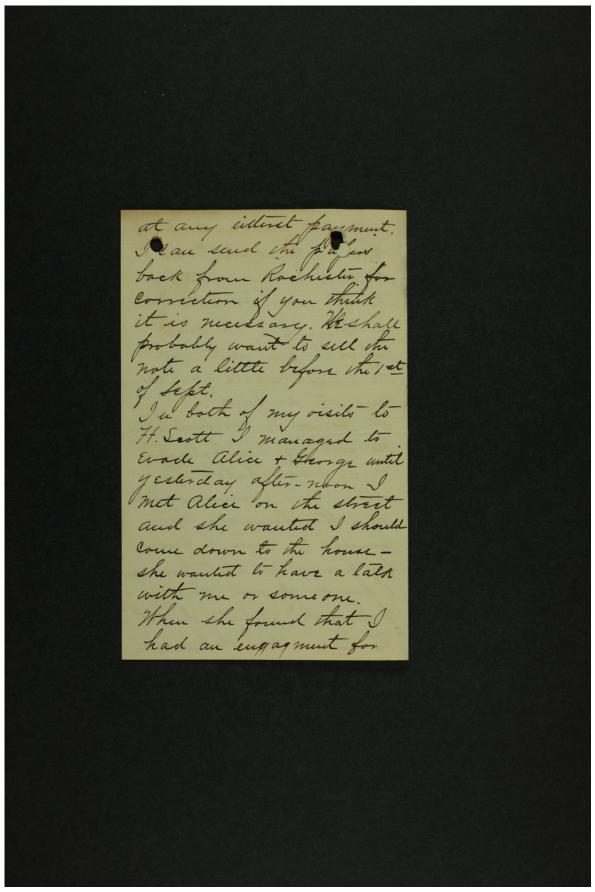




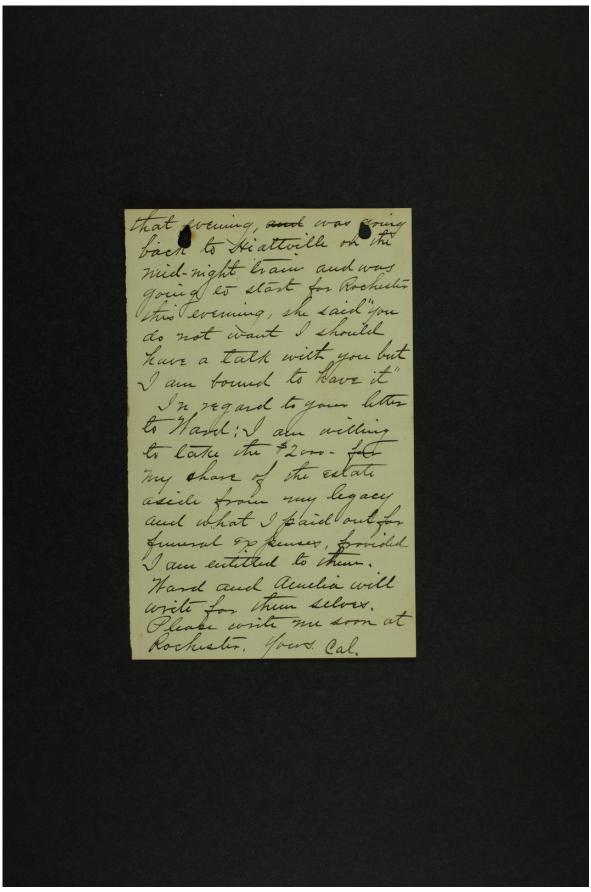




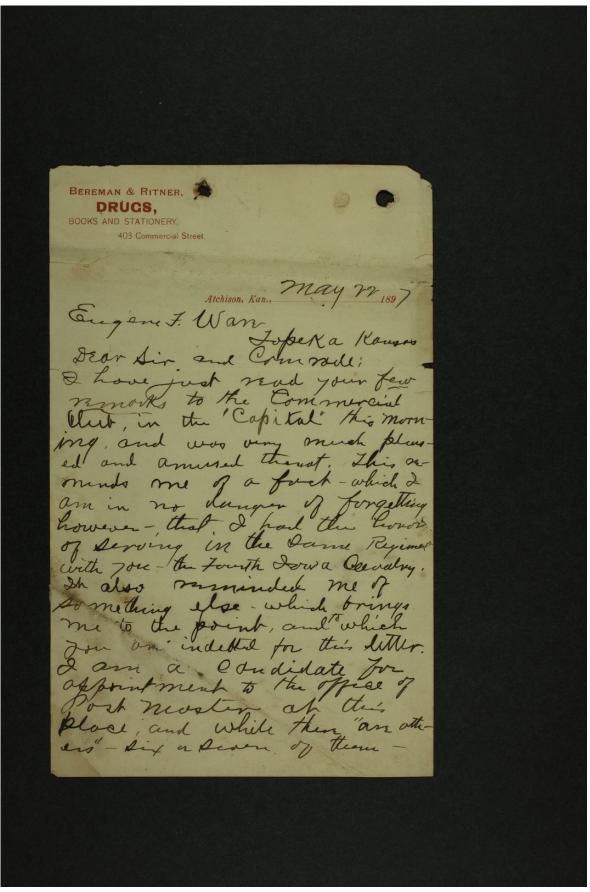




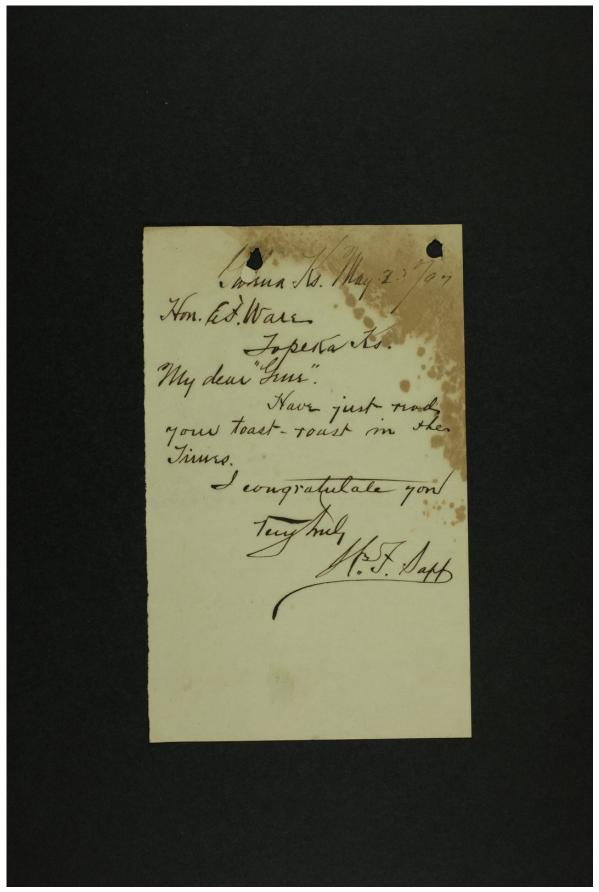




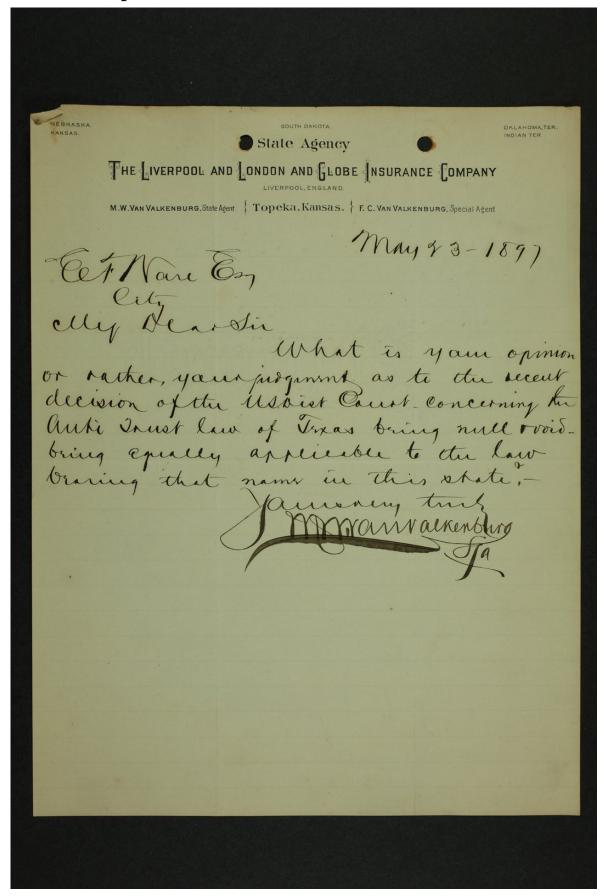




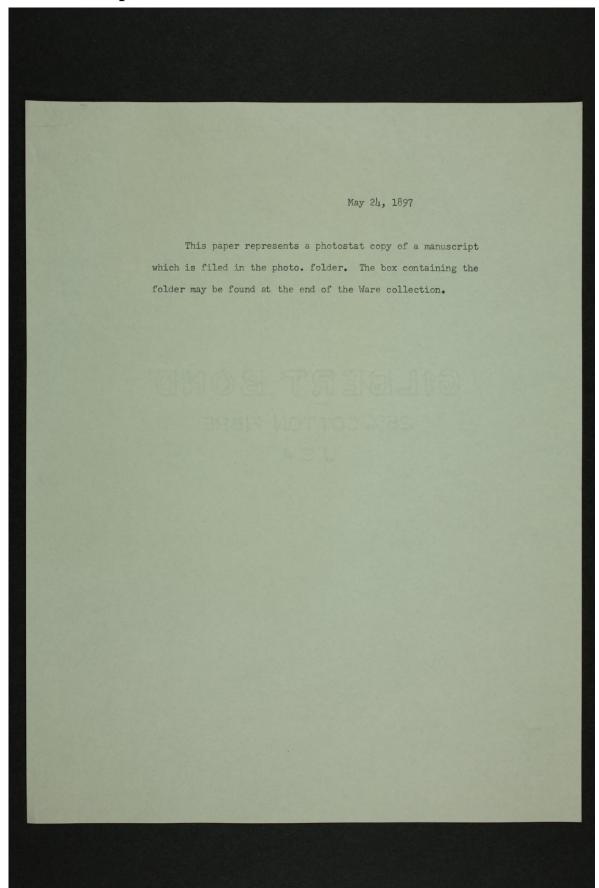




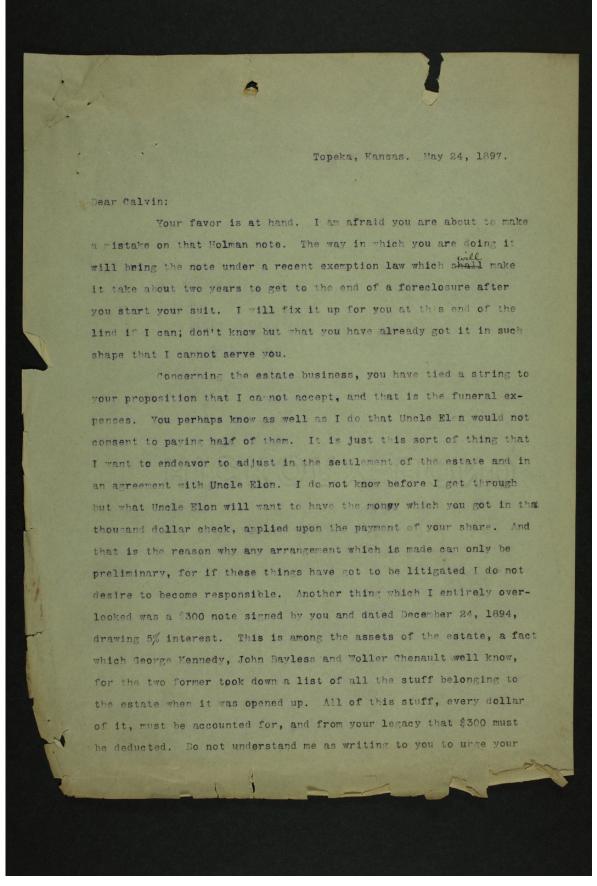














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-2-- acceptance of the \$2000 proposition. I do not care a straw about it one way or the other, and it is quite possible that the matter will fail. There are three reasons why it may fail. The first reason is that as Tobacco stock seems to again have taken a downward shoot owing perhaps to the Illinois decision, the matter, might get in such shape that I could not pay that much, and under my reservation, having a right to withdraw, I should withdraw. Second, and one of the difficult branches of it, it might be that I could not get a contract with Uncle Elon that would be satisfactory. It will require a good deal of discussion and consession to put the matter in such a fluid shape that a settlement can be had of the estate without disorder or litigation. Third, something may happen at the last minute by which one of the heirs would see proper to revoke this, there being a reservation in their favor, and no contract to go through and no deal to be closed providing they revoke at any time before the deal with Uncle Elon is closed. If there is any lingering suspicion in your mind that you do not want to go into this deal, I beg of you not to do so. It is a matter which I do not care a straw about either way so far as I am personally concerned. There is no speculation in it and I am simply trying to do something of general utility to all concerned, because I think I can do it. But unless I receive a hearty cooperation from every person concerned in it, I do not care to bother with it. And in addition to that I do not desire that you to take hold of it unless you will write to Clark and Rube in regard to the matter and obtain their consent, likewise. You understand the situation as well as I do, and unless they will go into it willingly and unless you can willingly recommend them to go into



