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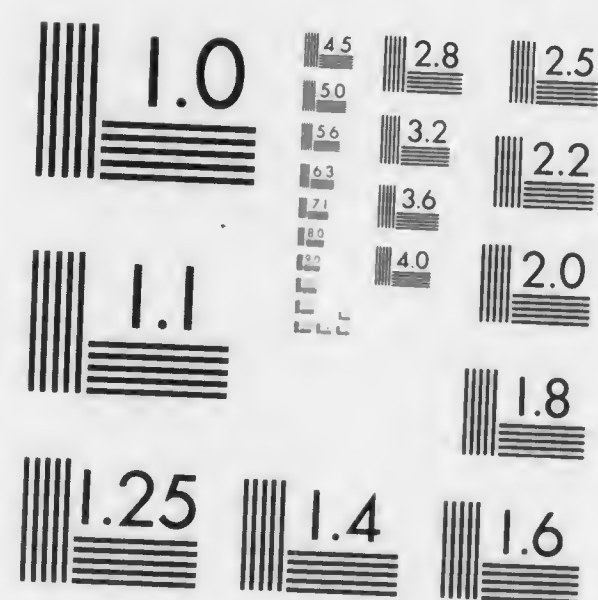
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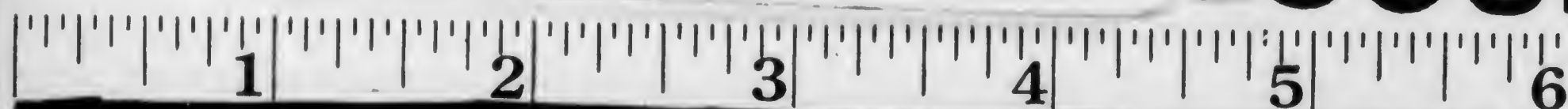
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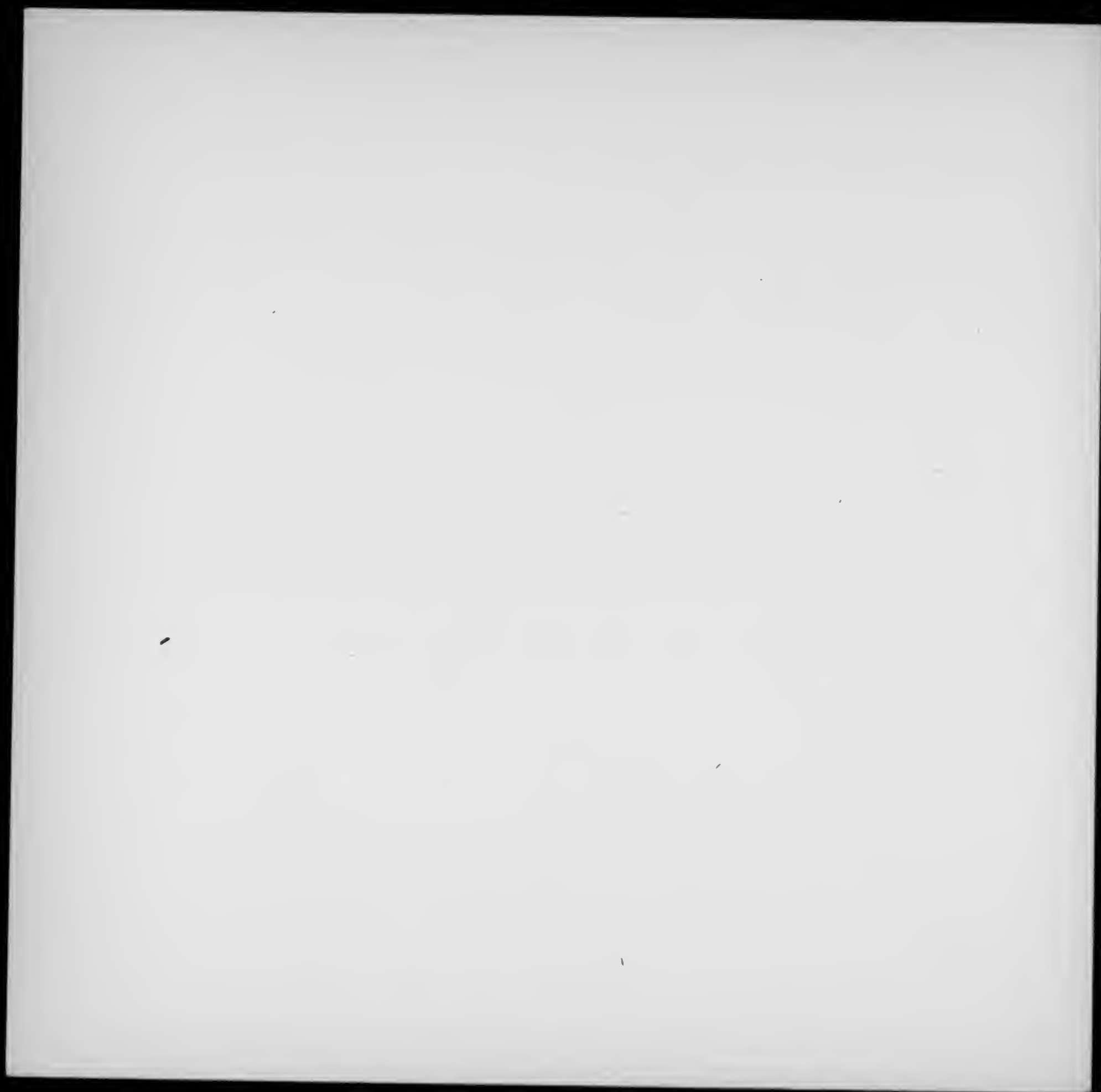
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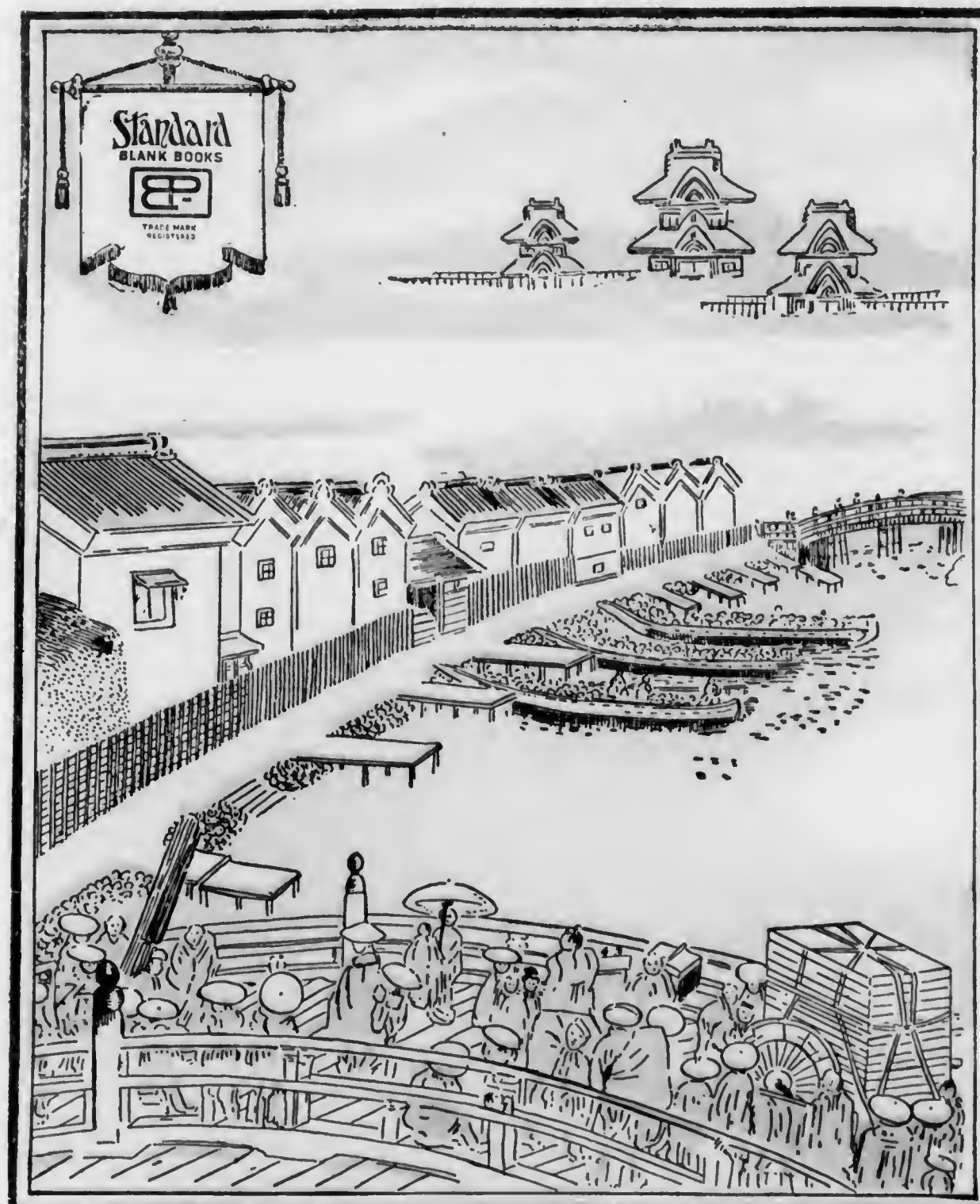
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Personal copy book - Feb. 12, 1920 - April 19 35  
C. Hart Merriam -

Expedition 280

“TOKIO,”  
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CONTAINING A FINE JAPANESE HAND MADE PAPER.  
EXTRA STRONG PERFECT COPIER.  
CARRIED IN STOCK IN VARIOUS BINDINGS  
AND THICKNESSES



February 12, 1920.

Dear Julia:

Your card is at hand. Yes, the big snow-storms struck us full in the face, and although we have had several days of thawing, the snow is still piled along the sides of the streets and everywhere in the open country.

Unfortunately, the bonds of the Washington Railway & Electric, like practically all railway bonds at the present time, are ridiculously low--quoted at 60. Hence, it would not pay to sell. On the other hand, they are paying a splendid interest on present valuation. Market conditions are so upset now that it is almost impossible to sell any securities for more than half or two-thirds their value. Still, numerous securities ordinarily considered good may be bought on terms yielding 6 to 7 percent. I have been tempted to sell several bonds in order to take advantage of the high interest rate of other securities, but can get so little for them that it would not pay.

With love from us all,

As ever yours,

*Hart*

Mrs. C. L. Merriam,  
1008 Washington St.,  
Watertown, N. Y.

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February 18, 1920.

Lee, Higginson & Company.  
43 Exchange Place,  
New York City.

Dear Sirs:

I shall be greatly obliged if you will kindly  
purchase for me at market one \$1,000 Liberty 2d or 4th  
4-1/4s.

Very truly yours,

*C. Hart Merriam*

CHM:MG



February 21, 1920.

Dear Coll:

Glad to have yours of the 16th, and to know that the snow-blockade has been broken sufficiently to admit the passage of trains. Glad also to have news of you and yours, as we seem a long way apart this winter.

We had not heard of the breaking of little Carol's leg. It is good that she is getting on so well, and it is fortunate that the bones of youngsters are not so stiff and hard as ours.

Don't waste any sleep over the destruction of eagles in Alaska. If you knew how many thousands of them infest that country, and how many hundreds of lambs of mountain sheep and mountain goats they kill each year, your sympathies might take a swift turn.

You ask what is the matter with W. W. My answer would be unfathomable egotism and a determination to rule the universe.

Dorothy and her little one have been having a hard time with 'Flu'. Beth recovered promptly, but Dorothy has had a trained nurse for a couple of weeks, followed by subnormal temperature, but she is now on her feet again.

We all, including Florence and Vernon, are well and extremely busy. I had a very active and very successful field season in California, accumulating so much material that it will

C.C.M.--2

take a long time yet to get it all in permanent shape.

We have had lots of cold weather, and a good deal of snow and ice, but it is practically all gone now except on the north side of buildings and on the cold side of east and west streets. Fortunately, we put in our coal before going to California, and have enough left to carry us through till April anyhow, perhaps till May, when we hope to pull stakes for California. But we have had to supplement it, as usual, by a wood-fire in the fireplace at the rate of \$20 per cord.

With love to you all,

As ever,

Mr. C. C. Merriam,  
Lyons Falls, N. Y.



February 24, 1920.

Dear Mrs. Martinelli:

Your letter dated February 16 has just arrived, and I am very glad to hear from you and to know that you are all well. Am glad to know also that Mr. Martinelli has cleaned out the ash-house and put in some wood. In payment for this, I am enclosing herewith a check for \$40. as per your memorandum.

We have had a very severe winter for Washington, with lots of snow and ice and disagreeable weather. The dry winter in California is a great misfortune, but I am glad to see by the paper that you have been having a little rain during the last day or two. Hope it may continue.

With kind regards and best wishes to you all,

Very truly yours,

Mrs. Pompeo Martinelli,  
Lagunitas, Calif.



March 6, 1920.

Mr. John P. Holman,  
Associate Editor,  
Forest & Stream,  
New York City.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of the 4th inst., would say that I object to being posted as a member of an Advisory Board for the same reason that I have so long objected to being falsely paraded as a member of a mythical Governing Board. I am tired of having my name used as an advertising placard, as I have repeatedly written to the Editor of Forest & Stream, and tired of being placed in a false position before the public. I therefore decline absolutely to have my name used in any connection as a member of any Board connected with the management of Forest & Stream. This applies to your office letterheads as well as to the Journal itself.

With no ill will toward the Journal, but with a determination to put an end to this farce,

Very truly yours,

CHW:MG

*C. Hart Merriam*

March 6, 1920.

Dear Mr. Burton:

The enclosed letter from the Associate Editor of Forest & Stream was received this morning. I am referring it to you along with a copy of my reply.

Very truly yours,

*C. Hart Merriam*

McLanahan & Burton,  
Union Trust Building,  
Washington, D. C.



Or

March 8, 1920.

Mr. P. H. Cochrane,  
County Assessor,  
San Rafael, Calif.

Dear Sir:

The accompanying assessment blank for 1920 relating to my property at Lagunitas has just reached me. Having here no inventory of my property, and no copy of the blank originally filed, it is impossible for me to fill it out. The property however is exactly the same as during previous years. The automobile is the same one that I originally drove from Washington, D. C., to Lagunitas in the summer of 1913. The 1920 license has not yet been applied for, as I do not get it until about the time of my return to California. The car is now in the Thayer Garage at San Rafael where the 1919 license plate may be examined if so desired.

Regretting my inability to fill the assessment schedule, but assuring you that a copy of the one on file in your office will be identical in every respect.

Very truly yours,

CHM:MG

*C. Hart*



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March 9, 1920.

Dear Elizabeth:

Nearly two months ago you were good enough to send me a few lines, ever since which eventful occasion I have been intending to reply, but pressure of more urgent matters prevented.

We, as you know, have been having a Chicago-kind of winter--not much joy in it. However, it is nearly over now, and we are looking forward to a visit from Dorothy and Beth next week, which is likely to cause a rise in the thermometer.

You allude to new insurance prospects, but are silent as to that wonderful Rushing-Water-Silencer which had fortunes in it. What has become of it, and why are you not floating your flag over various cities to take advantage of the new building rush?

We all are about as usual. Zenaida is in office part of nearly every day, and Elizabeth goes to the club and to movies about as usual. No excitement in sight until Beth's arrival next week, after which it will take a weather forecaster to file a prognosis of grandma's impending performances.

Arch seems to be settled in California, and Osgood has gone to South America for a short trip, as you doubtless know, so there is no particular news that I think of.

With love from us all,

As ever,

Elizabeth McMaster,  
1142 S. Michigan Ave.,  
Chicago, Ill.



March 11, 1920.

Dear Mr. Burton:

Thanks for yours of the 10th inst.

The same mail brings another letter of the same date from John P. Holman, Associate Editor of 'Forest & Stream', stating that the April number has gone to press, but that the May number will appear with my name removed. He agrees also to take my name from the letterheads as soon as that can be arranged.

Your letter therefore seems to have done the business, for which I am greatly obliged. When convenient, let me have your bill.

With best wishes,

Very truly yours,

Don't forget that you promised to bring your boy around here some day.

Mr. H. R. Burton,  
Union Trust Building,  
Washington, D. C.

March 11, 1920.

Mr. John P. Holman,  
Associate Editor,  
Forest & Stream,  
New York City.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of the 10th inst. is at hand, and I am very glad to know that you have finally agreed to pull down my name from the sign-posts of 'Forest & Stream'.

As stated in previous letters, I have the highest regard for Dr. George Bird Grinnell, and bear the Journal itself no ill will, at the same time I resent the marked discourtesy of the Editor in not replying to several of my letters, and I object most seriously to having my name used in the way it has been by the Journal for several years past.

Very truly yours,

CHM:MG



(copy)

Washington, D.C.

March 14, 1920

Dear Mrs. Harriman:

Ever since my return from California about Christmas, I have been working steadily on the results of the season's field notes in order to get the material into such shape that the gaps needing further attention would become apparent, and in order that I might tell you what has been accomplished. There is so much of it however that it cannot be finished for another month, so I will not wait longer to let you know in a general way what has been done.

I spent most of the season (early July until December) in northern California, working in the main from our old car as a base; and on the way back in December, stopped at Riverside in Southern California and at Needles on the Colorado River where additional material from several tribes was secured.

In northern California I was exceptionally fortunate in discovering remnants of several tribes of which only very few survivors remain, and equally fortunate in inducing them to give the needed information about their people. I made a special effort to complete field work among the Klamath River tribes, but did not quite succeed, and shall have to return for a short time in the spring in order to verify a few notes and fill a few gaps.

Since returning I have been bringing together for publication the matter relating to these tribes collected in 1919, 1918, and previous years.

The material on the Shaste and Karok tribes of Upper and Middle Klamath is so nearly complete that in each case a few days field work should suffice to fill the outstanding gaps, while the Yrok of the Lower Klamath ought not to require more than a couple of weeks.

This will enable us to publish on all the Klamath River tribes, covering a broad belt across the northern part of California and including the sites of about 300 villages.

From the tribes of Wintoon Stock on the McCloud, Sacramento, and Trinity rivers and the region west of Sacramento valley, I have secured vocabularies and incomplete lists of village sites ~~xx~~ from seven tribes, and hope to get the remainder during the coming season.

I enclose a typewritten statement of work done in 1919, which will be easier for you to read than my handwriting. From this you will see that we have been more than ordinarily successful in rescuing vanishing material.

At the April meeting of the National Academy of Sciences I expect to present the results of our work among the Shaste Indians.

Hoping to see you before our return to California, and with kindest regards to you all,

Very truly yours,

*C. Hart Harriman*



## FIELD WORK IN CALIFORNIA IN 1919

The field season of 1919 proved the most fruitful of any since I began work under the Harriman Fund. Most of the work done was in northern California, where, in addition to railroad and stage trips, I drove more than 3,000 miles, completing sections of several mountain ranges and numerous valleys, filling gaps in the distribution maps, and adding largely to information previously obtained concerning the geographic ranges of animals and plants in California. But the richest returns were in the field of ethnology. Vocabularies previously obtained of a dozen different languages were checked and increased by an average of 500 or more words each (some by more than a 1,000 words), and in addition, vocabularies of seven tribes or dialects not previously obtained were secured. In all, material was collected from no less than 20 different tribes. One of these was previously wholly unknown, another, of which only 75 words had ever been recorded and which was believed to be extinct, was rediscovered and some 550 words collected.

Of almost equal importance was the fortunate discovery of several old Indians belonging to nearly extinct tribes from whom the original tribal boundaries, village names and locations, and the names of neighboring tribes were obtained. One of these old men was a Nem-lak-ke--one of the western tribes of the Wintoon Stock. I had been given his name years ago but heretofore had failed to find him. He gave me the names and locations of 48 villages previously unknown. Additional village sites and tribal boundaries were obtained from the Northeastern Wintoon of McCloud River, and of several other tribes.

But the crowning success of the season was the finding of two old Shaste chiefs whose memories reached back to the period before the sudden influx of whites during the Gold Rush of 1849-50. From them I rescued at the eleventh hour a priceless fund of vanishing information, including a practically complete list of Shaste villages, verifying those obtained in previous years, and bringing the total number now known up to 159. The extent of the increase gained in our knowledge of this tribe may be inferred from the circumstance that Dixon in his work on the Shaste, done under the C. P. Huntington fund and published in 1907, knew only 30 villages.

The list of Karok villages on the middle Klamath obtained by me in 1918 was verified and augmented, bringing the number up to 80. These, with the Yurok or Po-lik-lah of Lower Klamath, and the Shaste of Upper Klamath (but excluding the Modok and Klamath tribes proper of the Klamath Lake region) bring the total number of villages for the area drained by Klamath River up to 290. All of these have now been listed and platted on maps.

From the large number of villages, it is obvious that the aboriginal population must have been very numerous. Gibbs, who<sup>in 1851</sup> followed Klamath River up as far as the mouth of Scott River and then visited Scott and Shasta valleys, estimated the number of Shaste Indians living at that time as about 3,000. But the chiefs from whom he obtained information mentioned only 50 village grounds, of which only 24 were on Klamath River; and there is nothing to indicate that Gibbs had any inkling of the existence of some 30



villages then inhabited on the Upper Klamath above Shasta Valley. Some of these were small, consisting of only a few houses, but many were of good size, as I am informed by an old chief still living, who tells me that all were inhabited when he was a young man. Allowing an average of 40 persons to a village (and Gibbs allows 60), there must have been at least 1,200 Indians in Klamath canyon above Shasta Valley. This would make the total population of the Shaste tribe at the time of the Gold Rush at least 4,000.

In addition to the field work in California, I obtained a good deal of material of value from Indians of several tribes confined in the State Prison at San Quentin; and also from members of several other tribes in the Indian School near Riverside in Southern California. And on the way home I stopped at Needles on the Colorado River in order to work among the Mohave and Chemawee tribes.

In all my work with Indians I have made a special point of getting the names of the mammals, birds, reptiles, fishes, insects, and plants of the regions inhabited by the various tribes, and now have lists of this kind in upwards of 100 dialects and languages. The names of animals and plants, correctly identified, are of great value to the student of anthropology for the reason that they occur again and again not only in connection with hunting, clothing, food, implements and so on, but also in the history and religion of all the tribes. It is a lamentable fact that errors of identification of animals and plants are conspicuous among the writings of professional ethnologists who unfortunately lack the basic knowledge of natural history so necessary in obtaining information from Indians.

#### WORK AMONG THE MISSION RECORDS

For more than ten years I have been carding the names and locations of Indian villages mentioned by the Padres in the Mission Records, taking them from extracts and data published by Taylor, Bancroft, Engelhardt and others, and more recently from manuscript abstracts of 9 of the Records made by Pinart some 40 years ago and placed at our disposal through the courtesy of the officers of the Bancroft Library at Berkeley.

For some years I have cherished the hope that it might be possible to obtain access to the original manuscript Records in the handwriting of the Spanish Padres, still locked up among the Archives of the various Missions, but until 1919 made no serious effort to do so. Having in the early summer of 1919 completed work on the accessible records, I made bold to request of the Most Reverend Archbishop Hanna of San Francisco the great privilege of access to, with permission to copy, these precious original manuscripts. He replied in the kindest manner, granting the permission asked for, and assuring me of the cooperation of Bishop Cantwell of Los Angeles who has charge of the Southern California Records. As a result, my assistant Miss Stella Clemence, an expert in reading old Spanish manuscripts, spent three months in working in the Old Missions from San Diego and Capistrano northward all the way to Monterey and Santa Cruz, verifying the material previously obtained and adding multitudes of additional records.



Of the 21 Missions, the original books of only two were completely missing, and by good fortune those two were among the nine of which copies had been previously examined.

Among the several books kept at each Mission, the Book of Baptisms, beginning as early as the year 1770, proved by far the most important for our work, as in it are entered the names of the individual Indians and the villages from which they came. With few exceptions the books are well preserved and the writing is clear and legible. The magnitude of the task of examining them critically may be imagined from the fact that one of them (at Mission San Gabriel) contains some 10,000 entries of Indians baptized. Some of the records of San Juan Capistrano, San Gabriel, San Diego, Monterey, and a few of the others are in the handwriting of the beloved and much revered Father Junipero Serra, founder of the California Missions.

Those of San Carlos Mission at Carmel near Monterey comprise the books of baptisms, deaths, and marriages, all of which were kept by Father Serra until his death, and are models of careful work and beautiful writing. All three give the rancharia names for practically every record.

The Book of Baptisms of Mission San Fernando Rey comprises 3,126 entries running continuously from September 8, 1797, to September 4, 1855; that of Mission San Gabriel extends from 1771 to 1855, and contains some 10 thousand entries of Indians baptized, while the two volumes entitled Libro de Difuntos of the same Mission extend from 1772 to 1855 and contain 6,934 records. The Book of Baptisms at San Luis Obispo

Mission covers the period from 1772 to 1869; that at San Miguel Mission from 1872 to 1862; that at Santa Clara (3 volumes), from 1777 to 1860, comprising 12,697 records; while at San Juan Bautista Mission, the records of baptisms and deaths together extend from 1797 to 1865. This brief statement will give an idea of the extent and value of the records and of the amount of labor necessary to obtain from them the needed material. This is now being typewritten and put into shape for publication, but owing to the voluminousness of the material it will be some time before the thousands of entries from the different Missions can be tabulated and compared and the actual number of aboriginal villages ascertained. The matter is complicated not only by various spellings of the same name, but also by the circumstance that the geographic areas from which the Missions collected their Indians overlapped to a very considerable extent, so that the name of the same village often occurs in records of several different Missions.

With very few exceptions, Miss Clemence was treated with becoming courtesy and at once granted the desired privilege of working from the original records. In one or two cases however this was at first positively refused, but after a little persuasion the records were brought forth.

Among the Mission Archives is a collection of some 3,000 manuscripts and diaries relating to early Spanish explorations, expeditions sent out from the Missions for the purpose of obtaining Indian converts, and so on. These, owing to limited time, could not be critically examined during the present season. The



same is true of a very valuable assemblage of manuscripts at Santa Barbara known as the 'De la Guerra Collection', the examination of which had to be postponed until some future day.

#### BEAR MATERIAL

During the year 1919 more than 300 skulls of Bears were purchased, mostly from localities in Alaska, Yukon, and British Columbia. It is gratifying to note that among these the proportion of adult males is larger than usual, and that a number of the skulls came from localities which from their remoteness or inaccessibility have heretofore been unrepresented, or represented by insufficient material.

In addition to specimens, a good deal of information about Bears has been obtained from Indians and hunters, and accounts of several interesting Bear hunts have been added to the files.

The accumulation of specimens and information necessary for the monographic work on Bears on which I have been engaged for 30 years has now reached a state of completion sufficient to justify the final labor of preparing the material for the press. The editorial work on this material has been repeatedly interrupted by the urgent need of searching for vanishing material in the way of skulls of species either already extinct or on the verge of extinction.

For instance, it was nearly 25 years after I had undertaken the study of the Bears before I succeeded in obtaining the material necessary for establishing the identity of the original Grizzly Bear described by Lewis & Clark more than a hundred years before, and named Ursus horribilis by Ord in 1815. In fact, the Bears of the Great Plains region from the Panhandle of Texas northward through the Dakotas to the plains of the Saskatchewan in Canada were so completely exterminated by buffalo hunters, and their remains so completely obliterated from the face of the earth, that lamentably few specimens are known to exist. Similarly in California, where as on the Great Plains Grizzlies were <sup>formerly</sup> abundant but are now believed to be wholly extinct, specimens are so rare that the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology of the University at Berkeley, with ample funds at its disposal, has been able to secure only a single skull. We have been more fortunate, having by diligent inquiry and persistent effort carried on over a number of years succeeded in acquiring upwards of 20 skulls, from the study of which it appears that at the time of the Gold Rush of 1849 and the early fifties there existed in California no fewer than 5 species of these huge animals.



## VANISHING MATERIAL

It is now pretty generally agreed that one of the most urgent duties of the present day--one that we owe both to ourselves and to posterity--is the rescuing of vanishing material. The eleventh hour has arrived--in many cases it has already passed--for in California alone since the coming of the white man more than 100 tribes of Indians have become extinct, carrying with them into the grave a wealth of material now gone forever; and among the larger animals, the big Elk of the northwest coast and several species of Grizzly Bears have been exterminated and the California Antelope is nearly gone.

As the country becomes more thickly settled and the people become more interested in local and historical matters, our generation will be severely censured for neglect of many things, not least of which will be our failure to have ascertained the location and names of aboriginal village sites, routes of travel, and tribal boundaries, and the religious beliefs and economic development of the original inhabitants, including their knowledge of food, fiber and medicinal plants, and so on; and also our neglect in the matter of preserving specimens of animals approaching extinction. In all of these directions we can claim not only that we have done our full duty, but also that our efforts have been rewarded by a full measure of success.

C. Hart Merriam  
March 15, 1890



March 23, 1920.

Dear Mrs. Geyer:

Florence wrote you yesterday as to the status of hotel and boarding-house accommodations so far as we were able to learn them, and we have not been able to find any additional ones, which I greatly regret. The city seems overstocked with visitors just now, and it has been overfull of permanent or semi-permanent people for the last two years.

The two rooms at Miss Gilbert's, 1908 Biltmore St., seem the most promising unless you prefer one of the hotels Florence wrote you about yesterday.

My suggestion is this: that you wire me if you wish to engage Miss Gilbert's rooms, and also wire when you expect to arrive.

I shall be very glad to meet you at the train and take you and the children wherever you decide to go.

We all are very glad you are coming, and regret that we cannot take you in, but both houses are completely full.

Don't fail to let me know the time your train is due in Washington, as I should be much disappointed if I cannot have the pleasure of meeting you at the station.

With love to you all,

Very truly yours,

Mrs. H. C. Geyer.  
Cedar Street,  
Englewood, N. J.

May 10, 1920.

Collector of Taxes,

Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I shall be obliged if you will kindly send me tax bill for my property in Square 190, corner of 16th and Caroline streets, same being Lots 50, 49, and the north 10 $\frac{1}{2}$  feet of Lot 48.

Very truly yours,

CHM:MG

*CHM:MG*

May 29, 1920.

Dear Julia:

Enclosed is your June coupon, with usual deposit slip.

How are you? We have had a late cold spring which suddenly warmed up yesterday. We had expected to leave for California long ago, but unfinished manuscript will keep me here for nearly two weeks longer probably.

Vernon is not at all well. The rest of us hope to pull through the summer.

With love from us all,

As ever yours,

*Handwritten signature*

Mrs. Julia Bush Merriam,  
1008 Washington St.,  
Watertown, N. Y.



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May 31, 1920

Collector of Taxes,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith is my check for \$277.38 in  
payment of taxes, as per accompanying tax bills, namely:

For Lot 804,       \$47.25

For Lot 805       158.10

Personal &  
intangible       72.03

Respectfully,  


CHM:MG

June 13, 1920

Potomac & Chesapeake Telephone Co.,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sirs:

We are closing our house, 1919 Sixteenth Street, today, and do not expect it to be reoccupied before the end of the year. I should be obliged therefore if you will discontinue the phone until further notice.

Respectfully,

CHM:MG

June 13, 1920

Potomac Electric Power Co.,  
14th & C Streets,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sirs:

Today I am closing my house, 1919 Sixteenth Street, for the season, and do not expect to return until the end of the year. I have turned off the electric current at the main switch in the basement under the stone steps at the front of the house, and no current should be used until my return.

Respectfully,

CHM:MG  
CHM:MG

June 13, 1920

Water Department,  
Municipal Building,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sirs:

I have today closed my house for the remainder of the summer, and have turned off the water where it enters the house. No water should be used in the house until my return about the end of the year.

Respectfully,

CHM:MG

June 13, 1920

Washington Gas Light Co.,  
411 10th Street,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sirs:

Today I am closing my house, 1919 Sixteenth Street, for the season, and do not expect to return before about the end of the year. I have turned off the gas where it comes in from the street just before reaching the meter. No gas should be used in the house until my return.

Respectfully,

CHM:MG



June 13, 1920

Chief of Police,

Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Today I am closing my house, 1919 Sixteenth Street, for the season, and do not expect to return until about the end of the year. I shall be obliged if you will kindly have your patrolmen keep an eye on the house from time to time as they pass.

Should anything occur to require attention, please notify Mrs. Marian Baker, 1905 Sixteenth St., or E. W. Nelson or Dr. A. K. Fisher, Biological Survey, Dept. of Agriculture.

My address until about the end of the year will be Lagunitas, Marin County, California.

Respectfully,

CHM:MG

June 18, 1920

Mr J.P.M. Duvall,  
City Passenger Agent  
B. & O. Railroad Co.  
Washington, D.C.

My dear Sir:

The sleeper in which we left Washington last Sunday (June 13) broke down during the night at Akron, Ohio, and myself, wife and daughter were transferred to uppers in other cars. The delay caused us to miss connection with the Pacific Limited at Chicago.

We secured one lower and two uppers in the Overland limited leaving Chicago the same night, but had to pay cash for them as the Agent at the station refused to honor the sleeper ticket you gave us at Washington, and which I am enclosing herewith.

Inasmuch as the failure to connect at Chicago was due to the breaking of a truck under the Pullman Imlay (No. 28) and not to any fault of ours, I shall be obliged if you will kindly have the Company reimburse me for the cost of the 3 lowers from Chicago to San Francisco, as per enclosed ticket.

Very truly yours,

C. Hart Merriam

Please have check sent to me at Lagunitas, Calif.  
The endorsement on the back of the ticket was  
made by the Pullman conductor on the train.



June 13, 1920

Chief of Police,

Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Today I am closing my house, 1919 Sixteenth Street, for the season, and do not expect to return until about the end of the year. I shall be obliged if you will kindly have your patrolmen keep an eye on the house from time to time as they pass.

Should anything occur to require attention, please notify Mrs. Marian Baker, 1905 Sixteenth St., or E. W. Nelson or Dr. A. K. Fisher, Biological Survey, Dept. of Agriculture.

My address until about the end of the year will be Lagunitas, Marin County, California.

Respectfully,

CHM:MG

June 18, 1920

Mr J.P.M. Duvall,  
City Passenger Agent  
B. & O. Railroad Co.  
Washington, D.C.

My dear Sir:

The sleeper in which we left Washington last Sunday (June 13) broke down during the night at Akron, Ohio, and myself, wife and daughter were transferred to uppers in other cars. The delay caused us to miss connection with the Pacific Limited at Chicago.

We secured one lower and two uppers in the Overland limited leaving Chicago the same night, but had to pay cash for them as the Agent at the station refused to honor the sleeper ticket you gave us at Washington, and which I am enclosing herewith.

Inasmuch as the failure to connect at Chicago was due to the breaking of a truck under the Pullman Inlay (No. 28) and not to any fault of ours, I shall be obliged if you will kindly have the Company reimburse me for the cost of the 3 lowers from Chicago to San Francisco, as per enclosed ticket.

Very truly yours,

C. Hart Merriam

*These have been checked out to me at Lagunitas, and the endorsement on the back of the ticket was made by the Pullman conductor on the train.*

Retake of Preceding Frame



Lagunitas, Calif.

Dear Lyon:

June 23, 1920

Many thanks for your most tempting invitation, just recd., to be present at your most remarkable Fandango. How in the world did you ever manage to get it up?

I'd give a whole grip full of old shoes to be there, but the trains take so long to go from California to Thendara that it can't be done. Besides, I have a show of my own coming off in Yosemite next week, as you will see from the enclosed.

We are having clear skies and wonderful weather here, and the country is glorious.. For an hour or two after daylight mornings, Zenaida and I lie awake listening to the Thrushes and the--"breathing" of the Boss of Lagunitas!

Wish you were here with us to help enjoy the redwoods and madrones, and to chop wood.

It is a great disappointment to me that I cannot see the ceremonies you have arranged for with the Iroquois League. It would seem to be an event of a lifetime. Besides, it should be a great incentive to bring a multitude to see and appreciate the project you have developed up there.

Elizabeth and Zenaida join in love to your sister Mary, if she is with you, and with thanks, regrets, and "best" from us all,

As ever yours,



Capt. Lyon de Camp  
Thendara, N.Y.

Lagunitas, Calif

June 26, 1920

Assessor, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I have not received the tax return blank for Personal Tax for year ending June 30, 1920, and shall be obliged if you will send me one.

Unfortunately, my property book is in my safe in Washington and cannot be got at, and I have here no copy or memorandum of last year's return. I shall be greatly obliged therefore if you will kindly send me a copy of last year's return, for which I am perfectly willing to pay cost of copying.

My Personal property is exactly the same as a year ago with the exception that I now have no automobile in Washington, and have purchased \$500 Stock of the Plainfield Body Corporation.

Regretting to be obliged to put your office to this trouble,

Very truly yours,

C. Hartman



August 3, 1920

Mr H.P. Clements  
Gen. Passenger Agent  
Pullman Co., Chicago.

Dear Sir:

Referring to my claim (89744) for reimbursement for three lower berth tickets from Washington, D.C. to San Francisco, Calif., dated Washington, June 13, 1920 (Form 1000-2 No. 649, calling for lowers 1, 2, and 3, Car N-12 to San Francisco), would like to ask if you cannot settle at once?

You have a letter from W.V. Shipley, Div. Passenger Agt. B & O at Washington, dated June 28, explaining that the car in which we left Washington on Sunday June 13, broke down at Akron, Ohio, the same night, causing us to be transferred to uppers in other cars, and to miss connection at Chicago. As your agent at the Northwestern ticket office in Chicago refused to furnish sleeper tickets in exchange for the ones we had, I was obliged to pay cash for three others to San Francisco.

Kindly send check at once and oblige.

Respectfully,

C. Hart Merriam -

Lagunitas, Calif.

August 20, 1920

Dear Doctor Stephens:

When the Stephens family pulled out of Lagunitas they left a big hole which we all hope they will hurry up and fill again.

The Campe Co. adjusted the clutch so it has shown no sign of slipping since. But when I came down to the ferry so many cars were waiting that Betsey could'nt squeeze on and we had to stay over for the next boat. It was cold and windy and my sore throat took advantage of the opportunity to spread downward into the bronchial tubes, so when I arrived at Lagunitas I had a full fledged acute bronchitis. Took a small dose of Aspirin and a large dose of supper and hit the bed, where I stayed till next afternoon. Am now much better but not quite ready to risk a field trip. Hope however to start on Monday or Tuesday.

The hot spell that celebrated the Stephens visit began to weaken the day they left and has now disappeared, leaving normal Lagunitas days and nights.

Arch Gilbert has been with us a couple of days and is going back to the City today.

We hope Elizabeth's leg is much better, and that all of you, or as many as can get away, will come to us whenever you can.

With love from us all to all of you,

As ever yours,



August 20, 1920

Dear Doctor Stephens:

When the Stephens family pulled out of Lagunitas they left a big hole which we all hope they will hurry up and fill again.

The Campe Co. adjusted the clutch so it has shown no sign of slipping since. But when I came down to the ferry so many cars were waiting that Betsy could'nt squeeze on and we had to stay over for the next boat. It was cold and windy and my sore throat took advantage of the opportunity to spread downward into the bronchial tubes, so when I arrived at Lagunitas I had a full fledged acute bronchitis. Took a small dose of Aspirin and a large dose of supper and hit the bed, where I stayed till next afternoon. Am now much better but not quite ready to risk a field trip. Hope however to start on Monday or Tuesday.

The hot spell that celebrated the Stephens visit began to weaken the day they left and has now disappeared, leaving normal Lagunitas days and nights.

Arch Gilbert has been with us a couple of days and is going back to the City today.

We hope Elizabeth's leg is much better, and that all of you, or as many as can get away, will come to us whenever you can.

With love from us all to all of you,

As ever yours,

*C. H. Stephens*



Lagunitas  
Aug. 23, 1920

Dear Doctor Stephens:

Many thanks for your promptness in sending Mr Lyon's address. . I am writing him by this mail.

We all are pained to learn that Elizabeth's leg is still so naughty as to keep her in bed, and trust that it will soon be on the road again.

I fear, my dear Doctor, that you are just a bit "sarcastic" (as the country schoolmarm remarked) with regard to the alleged character of the 'hole' left at Lagunitas when your good family departed. For I think you and Mrs. Stephens know that we love to have you here and wish you could come much oftener and stay longer.

We expect to start in the morning for lower Bel River, and hope to be home again by the 4th or 5th of September.

I am enclosing a duplicate key to the front door so you will feel free to come whenever you can, whether we are home or not. If you can't come yourselves, we should be glad to have Bruce run up anytime--as often as he likes--for the week-end. Turn key the wrong way and keep on turning till it unlocks, first the latch, and then the lock.

Betsy's clutch seems to be all right now, but we shall know better when we hit some of the high places.

My bronchitis is taking the usual course, but I'm thankful that the antrums have not been infected.

Our love to you all.  
As ever yours,



August 25, 1920

My dear Florence:

What do you think has happened! We were all ready to start north and have the car ready, and took the necessary preparatory bath last evening, and had the beds and camp outfit all properly done up, and got up about 6 and expected to get off early, when we suddenly realized that it was R A I N I N G! Think of that! Rain in California in August! But it isn't much of a rain and probably won't last long, so we still hope to start right after lunch and drive to Santa Rosa or some other place on Russian River where there is unapt to be so much rain as in the redwoods. Then we shall not reach the Eel River redwoods till tomorrow, when the rain will have had time to quit.

It would do your eyes good to see the trees and ferns and mossy logs about the house this morning. Z reports that she saw a couple of Deer close by a little while ago. The rain may start feed for them in the woods and thus save our Oxalis and Heucheras and tender up-starting Polypodies.

Your letter of the 17th has arrived. We have no definite plans as to dates and can leave that till you come. I have so many trips waiting that I can always arrange by switching, when I know when somebody is coming.

We will take up the matter of the Klamath trip when Vernon knows when he will be there.

Glad you have seen the White Egrets and black Ravens.

Our love to you both. As ever,



Sept. 7, 1920

Plainfield Body Corporation,  
Plainfield, New Jersey.

Dear Sirs:

Your letter of Aug. 24 just recd., forwarded from Washington.

In accordance with the terms of the blanks you enclosed I am herewith enclosing my check for \$122.50 in payment for 25 additional shares of your Preferred Stock, and regret that I am not in position to do more at this time, as I am a firm believer in the American Motors Corporation.

On the accompanying subscription slip I have given my permanent address, but as I shall not return to Washington for a couple of months, I shall be obliged if you will kindly send the stock certificate to me in care of the National Metropolitan Bank, Washington, D.C.

With best wishes,

Very truly yours,

*C. Hartman*

*Stock  
Recd. ok  
C.H.*

*Lagunitas, Calif*

Sept. 7, 1920

Mr Geo. W. White,  
President, Nat. Metropolitan Bank,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr White:

Herewith I am enclosing check on the Crocker Bank of San Francisco for \$500, and shall be obliged if you will kindly credit same on my note for \$1000, dated June 11, 1920, reducing the amount due to \$500 and interest.

Have just returned from a 600 mile auto trip through the great redwood and fir forests of the northern coast region, and expect to start Saturday on an 800 mile drive. Hope you are getting some out-door life this summer.

With best wishes,

Very truly yours,

*C. Hartman*

Oct. 2, 1920

Carnie-Goudie Mfg. Co.  
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Sirs:

On Sept. 8th (nearly a month ago) I wrote you that the Army coat you sent me as a part of my order of August 23 was boy's size instead of my size, and that I was returning it to you by Parcels Post insured. For this I hold the postmaster's receipt dated Lagunitas, Calif., Sept. 9. My name was on the outside of the package.

I gave my chest measure, 38 inches, and weight, 190 pounds, and stated that if you had no new coats of my size I would accept a good flannel shirt, 17 inch collar.

But I have not recd. anything in exchange for the returned coat, and have had no reply to my letter.

Kindly give the matter your early attention.

See p. 51



Lagunitas, Calif.  
Oct. 3, 1920

Dear Doctor Stephens:

Pardon my delay in replying to your kind and thoughtful letter about the stories. I have been away for three days and therefore not able to write sooner.

Your suggestion that I publish some of my field experiences for the benefit of boys who like out-of-door life accords with my own feeling on the subject, and several years ago I began to go over my journals (of which I now have fully a hundred volumes) and take out episodes that seemed of interest. Some of these are already typewritten. But the everlasting pressure of unfinished work in my special fields in natural history and ethnology has kept me from finishing anything.

You must realize that my age and consequent physical condition make it imperative to accomplish the remaining necessary field work at the earliest practicable moment, or the bulk of my scientific work will be left to others to publish. For this reason I am constantly forced to set aside bits of work that I would like to do. However, I look forward to some years of fitness for office work yet, and have hopes of winding up a lot of strings that at present are still dangling in the air.

Apart from all this, there are two reasons why I cannot accept your most generous offer: First, because my memory of details is no longer sufficiently reliable to enable me to dictate truthfully without referring to my journals; and second, because I am embarrassed in dictating to a dictaphone--being used to a stenographer and having the habit of walking up and down while dictating.

Your selection of stories interests and surprises me as it coincides very closely with my own thoughts on the subject; and furthermore, it had not occurred to me before that I had told so many in your presence!

I have in mind a few others, relating to experiences of 48 years ago, when naturalist of the Hayden Survey in Utah, Idaho, Wyoming and Montana; and also the story of the Arctic Seal-fishery as I saw it when surgeon of the 'Proteus' 37 years ago.

We all feel touched by your thoughtful and generous interest in offering to help put the stories on record, and it is a comfort to know that you feel that they are worth publishing.

Just now my field work is interrupted by impending visitors. Nelson, Chief of the Biological Survey, has returned from Alaska and will be here in a day or two, and Dr Fisher expects to arrive about the 10th. Vernon Bailey and my sister are due to arrive at Klamath Falls today, and likely to come to Lagunitas in a few days.

With love from our trio to you all,

As ever yours,

... on ... to ... and ...



Your selection of stories interests and surprises me as it coincides very closely with my own thoughts on the subject; and furthermore, it had not occurred to me before that I had told so many in your presence!

I have in mind a few others, relating to experiences of 48 years ago, when naturalist of the Hayden Survey in Utah, Idaho, Wyoming and Montana; and also the story of the Arctic Seal-fishery as I saw it when surgeon of the 'Proteus' 37 years ago.

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With love from our trio to you all,

As ever yours,

*C. H. Merriam*

... of the ... to ... and ...

Lagunitas, Calif.  
Oct. 14, 1920

McLanahan & Burton  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr Burton:

Enclosed is my check for \$11.60 in payment of accompanying bill. Your services in the matter were appreciated.

Enclosed also is a letter from Guinther of Buffalo, N.Y. accompanied by a Quit-Claim Deed on some of the property sold thro' him a year or two ago, as you will remember.

By a strange coincidence my sister, Florence Merriam Bailey is here with us just now. Not having any of the Buffalo papers here, and not feeling sure what to do, we concluded to execute the Deed and send it to you. If all right, please forward to my brother, C. Collins Merriam, Lyons Falls, New York, to be executed by him and returned to Guinther.

Very truly yours,



Oct. 25, 1920

Mailliard & Schmiedell  
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Sirs:

Thanks for renewal Policy No. 2902269 on my Lagunitas property, which I found last night on returning from Trinidad and adjacent region.

Enclosed is my check on Crocker bank for \$59.75 in payt. of same.

With thanks for your kind offices in the matter,

Very truly yours,

Nov. 4, 1920

Crocker Nat. Bank,  
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Sirs:

Herewith I am enclosing U.S. Treasury check for \$416.67 in my favor, and shall be obliged if you will kindly credit same to my account and return duplicate Deposit slip.

Very truly yours,



Nov. 4, 1920

Am. Motors Corporation  
Plainfield, New Jersey.

Dear Sirs:

Your appeal for more funds, dated Oct. 27, has just reached me, forwarded from Washington.

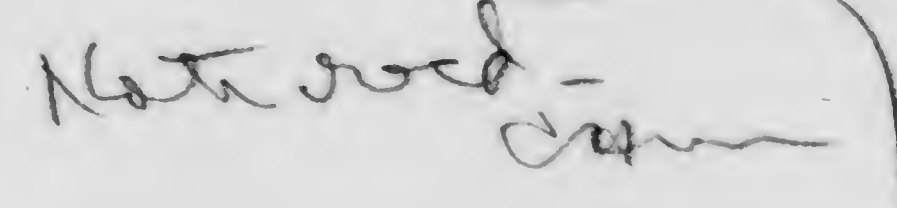
Since the organization of your company I have received a number of requests for additional subscriptions, in one form or another, and without exception have responded with a check, often at considerable inconvenience.

But I have faith in the honesty of the Company, and in the excellence of the Car, and therefore am enclosing check on the Crocker National Bank of San Francisco for \$480, in payment for a \$500 Treasury Note, as per accompanying blank.

As I expect to remain in California till about the end of the year, please send the note addressed to me in care National Metropolitan Bank, Washington, D.C.

Very truly yours,



Noted -  




Nov. 4, 1920

Tyler & Rutherford,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sirs:

Your letter of October 29, forwarded from Washington, reached me by today's mail.

Yes, I own the lot adjoining my house (no 1919) on east side of 16th Street, south of Caroline; and my sister, Mrs Florence Merriam Bailey, owns the remaining two lots between my house and Mrs Baker's (1905).

I might sell, but am not informed as to present values on this part of 16th Street, and do not expect to return to Washington before the end of the year. Should be glad to have you submit an offer.

Very truly yours,

*C. H. Rutherford*

Nov. 15, 1920

Carnie-Goudie Mfg Co.

Kansas City Mo.

This is to again call your attention to my letters of Sept. 8 and October 2, complaining that you had made no acknowledgment of my letters about the boys size soldiers coat you sent me in August and which I returned by Parcels Post insured, with my name plainly written on outside of package. I stated that if you had no coats of my size, I would accept a flannel shirt instead.

As you have not seen fit to replace the coat or even to write, I am compelled to ask that you refund at once the \$4.00 I paid you for the coat. If you fail to do this, thereby admitting that you mean to swindle me out of four dollars, I shall of course take such steps in the matter as seem called for and which may not redound to the credit of your firm.

*C. H. Rutherford*

Nov. 15, 1920

Robert Bagg & Co.  
Utica, New York.

Dear Sirs:

Thanks for your memorandum of the 8th inst, just recd.,  
enclosing Continental Insurance Policy No. 34070 on my house at  
1919 Sixteenth Street, Washington, D. C., for three years ending  
November 27, 1923.

My check for \$30 in payment of same is enclosed herewith.

Thanking you for your kind attention in the matter,

Very truly yours,



Nov. 21, 1920

McLanahan & Burton  
Union Trust Bldg.  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr Burton:

Thanks for your letter of the 10th instant in regard to old deeds of the Buffalo property sold through the Guinther Realty Company. Yes, it seems to me that they should be sent to Guinther as you suggest, and I shall be glad if you will attend to the matter.

I have not finished the field work laid out for the season but may be driven home by the rains. Day before yesterday 5.55 inches fell here in 24 hours, and the total for the past ten days is more than a foot.

Very truly yours,

*C. Hart Burton*

Lagunitas, Calif.  
Nov. 21, 1920

Dear Gandy:

Your letter reached us on returning from a field trip in October, since which we have been on a series of trips, camping all the way from Lagunitas to Humboldt Bay and Trinity River. We got caught in a few rains, and on some steep slippery mountain grades, and had the luck to arrive home from the last one just before the real fall deluge began. At Lagunitas more than a foot of rain fell in ten days, and no less than 5.55 inches day before yesterday! Sacramento River, according to the Weather Bureau reports, rose 21 feet (this is correct, 21 feet, not inches) and is still rising.

We are nearly out of firewood for both range and fireplace and cannot get anyone to cut any here, so when home I have to chop down and up a couple of trees every morning, and the women folks help tote.

We all were glad to hear from you and to know that you had such a superfine vacation. Texas is all right, but there are a few pretty fair places in New York State also--not to say anything about California. You surely were lucky to be able to spend July at Rhinebeck, and to do the Hudson by boat and the Catskills by auto. We hope the vacation and change of climate and food did you a lot of good.

We had intended to stay till the end of the year, but the rains if they keep up may drive us home.

Mrs M and Zenaida join in kind regards.

Very truly yours,

*C. Hart Burton*



Lagunitas, Calif.  
Nov. 21, 1920

Dear Florence and Vernon:

Florence's letter to Zenaida came yesterday, much to our relief, as we had not heard from you since you reached Tucson, tho' the box of castus sweets--most delicious--arrived a few days before.

I've made a couple of field trips since you left--the last to Cahto Valley a few miles from Laytonville, where we camped under ponderosa pines near the rancheria.

But we were driven home by the rains, which have been the heaviest we ever knew for so early in the season. Our little San Geronimo Creek is a deep roaring torrent 6-10 feet deep and very muddy. More than a foot of water has fallen during the past 12 days, and no less than 5.55 inches fell on one day. You should have seen our road!

We all are sorry you couldn't find a little house, or a ranch-house where you might find real shelter and help in doing the work, but perhaps you may later on. A tent is hardly the ideal home for winter.

Did you mean that you are 12 miles from Tucson, or from some other town?

Dr and Mrs Stephens have invited us for Thanksgiving and we are going. Just as the deluge was beginning I went to Alameda to go on a trip with Dr S. to the Tejon, but the rain was too much for us, so I returned to Lagunitas.

Every morning I chop down and up 2 or 3 trees, mostly tanbarks, for the fireplace, as all the old dry and partly rotten wood is now waterlogged. We are thankful for what Vernon brought into the wood house before leaving. I have sawed some dry ends for the kitchen range, but the pile is getting fearfully low.



TELEGRAM

San Francisco, Calif.  
Nov. 26, 1920

Mrs C.C. Merriam  
Lyons Falls, New York.

We stay nearly another month. Round trip Utica to San Francisco approximately two hundred dollars. Pullman first about thirty three each way; second about twenty-two. Get exact rates from agent at Lyons Falls. Come Union Pacific returning Southern Pacific, stopping Tucson, Arizona, with Florence and Vernon.

C. Hart Merriam

Lagunitas, Calif.  
Nov. 29, 1920

Dear Florence and V.B.:

Matters here are pegging on about as usual, but the rains have interfered sadly with the contemplated field work.

We are wondering how you are making it and whether you carried out your plan of tenting at the base of the Santa Ritas.

Thanksgiving day we went to the City and across to Alameda where we helped the Stephens take care of a 15-pound Turkey--present from that rare animal--a grateful patient!

Saturday afternoon Alice Eastwood came and spent Sunday (yesterday) with us. She gathered about 16 species of mushrooms nearby.

That S A W which Vernon left here is a wonder and delight for green wood work. I saw a few trees with it every morning, generally tanbarks, but this morning I fetched a lilac. It's hard to cut emuf to keep the fires agoing and have a little ahead.

Letters from Dorothy tell of Beth's continued activities. She is well again and full of all kinds of pranks and joys.

Have a lot of Umbellularia nuts drying, and hope to find a successful Indian way of getting rid of the bitter, for apart from this the flavor is delicious.

What do you think of our place anyway? If we only had a well-disposed boy to help with the wood it would be pretty smooth sailing. Maybe next year someone here will be willing to work.

Has Vernon been able to get to work with his beasties yet? And how does the place turn out as a trapping center?

Our love to you both.



Dec. 15, 1920

Mr S. H. Powell  
Keystone Garage  
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Sir:

Thanks for your letter of the 13th instant, enclosing  
Money order for \$30.85 in payment of balance on note due Dec. 1st.  
This note I have endorsed paid in full and am enclosing to you  
herewith.

I am glad to know that you expect to be able to pay the  
remaining hundred soon.

Very truly yours,

*C. H. H. H.*

Lagunitas, Calif.  
Dec. 29, 1920

Dear Dr and Mrs Stephens:

It is a great disappointment to us that you are not coming tomorrow--though we have to admit that the weather looks uncertain. So far, it has not rained since we went to Alameda, and the roads are dry and reasonably good except in a few spots.

On our way home the day we left you we stopt at Woodacre and had the good luck to find Bianchi at home--the man Mrs Stephens so kindly wrote me about. We hired him to help with the wood and he came yesterday and is here again today.

My side and back are much better, in spite of the fact that I have chopt a lot of trees.

Arch Gilbert and Miss Malden are here for the day, returning to Mill Valley this evening. Matters appear to be settled.

It certainly is too bad that both Elizabeths have colds. Please tell your Elizabeth that she can cure her's in a single night by letting the moon shine on Muggins for ten minutes, and then wrapping his warm hide around her neck and keeping it there till morning--sure cure, never known to fail.

Our Elizabeth did too much yesterday and is rather used up today. And unfortunately we have no cat to cure her with.

We still hope that the Stephens family will pay us a visit before we pull stakes for the East. We fear you exaggerate the terrors of a trip to Lagunitas at this season. The roads are pretty fair--in fact fairly good--nearly all the way, with only a few soft spots, and the time required from Bay Street is only 2½ hours. Two days after any rain stops, the roads are fair.

Thanks for the good letter. I am at your service.



Lagunitas, Calif.  
Dec. 29, 1920

Dear Dr and Mrs Stephens:

It is a great disappointment to us that you are not coming tomorrow--though we have to admit that the weather looks uncertain. So far, it has not rained since we went to Alameda, and the roads are dry and reasonably good except in a few spots.

On our way home the day we left you we stopt at Woodacre and had the good luck to find Bianchi at home--the man Mrs Stephens so kindly wrote me about. We hired him to help with the wood and he came yesterday and is here again today.

My side and back are much better, in spite of the fact that I have chopt a lot of trees.

Arch Gilbert and Miss Melden are here for the day, returning to Mill Valley this evening. Matters appear to be settled.

It certainly is too bad that both Elizabeths have colds. Please tell your Elizabeth that she can cure her's in a single night by letting the moon shine on Maggie for ten minutes, and then wrapping his warm hide around her neck and keeping it there till morning--sure cure, never known to fail.

Our Elizabeth did too much yesterday and is rather used up today. And unfortunately we have no cat to cure her with.

We still hope that the Stephens family will pay us a visit before we pull stakes for the East. We fear you exaggerate the terrors of a trip to Lagunitas at this season. The roads are pretty fair--in fact fairly good--nearly all the way, with only a few soft spots, and the time required from Bay Street is only 2½ hours. Two days after any rain stops, the roads are fair.

Thanks for the good letter.

Please say to Bruce that the Merriams will be delighted to see him at Lagunitas at any time when he has a day "off", and that he will always find an empty bed or cot waiting for a tall boy.

Should have written you yesterday but was at San Quentin working with some unfortunate Indians.

It was lovely of you to have us as a part of your family Christmas party and we fully appreciate what it meant to add 3 more to your already large family group. It was a great treat to us in our quiet life at Lagunitas and filled our heads with pleasant memories that will last for many a day.

With much love to you all,

As ever yours,

Dr W. Barclay Stephens  
Alameda, California.

*Hart Merriam*

*Dec. 30: Forget to send this by Arch last night. It is a little copy of the letter to the Stephens family. The closing name is signed to the letter to the Stephens family.*



Lagunitas, Calif.  
Dec. 29, 1920

Dear Dr and Mrs Stephens:

It is a great disappointment to us that you are not coming tomorrow--though we have to admit that the weather looks uncertain. So far, it has not rained since we went to Alameda, and the roads are dry and reasonably good except in a few spots.

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It certainly is too bad that both Elizabeths have colds. Please tell your Elizabeth that she can cure her's in a single night by letting the moon shine on Muggins for ten minutes, and then wrapping his warm hide around her neck and keeping it there till morning--sure cure, never known to fail.

Our Elizabeth did too much yesterday and is rather used up today. And unfortunately we have no cat to cure her with.

We still hope that the Stephens family will pay us a visit before we pull stakes for the East. We fear you exaggerate the terrors of a trip to Lagunitas at this season. The roads are pretty fair--in fact fairly good--nearly all the way, with only a few soft spots, and the time required from Bay Street is only 2½ hours. Two days after any rain stops, the roads are fair.

Thanks for the good letter.

Please say to Bruce that the Merriams will be delighted to see him at Lagunitas at any time when he has a day "off", and that he will always find an empty bed or cot waiting for a tall boy.

Should have written you yesterday but was at San Quentin working with some unfortunate Indians.

It was lovely of you to have us as a part of your family Christmas party and we fully appreciate what it meant to add 3 more to your already large family group. It was a great treat to us in our quiet life at Lagunitas and filled our heads with pleasant memories that will last for many a day.

With much love to you all,

As ever yours,

Dr W. Barclay Stephens  
Alameda, California.

*Harry Merriam*

*Dec. 30: Forgot to send this by Arch last night.*

*It rained a little early this morning but look-  
ing clearing now - hope it will be a fine day  
to go to San Quentin - can*

Retake of Preceding Frame



Dec. 30, 1920

Postmaster  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

After receipt of this, please do not forward to California any more mail addressed to the Merriam family at 1919 16th Street, Washington, but have same delivered to my office at the Northumberland Apartment.

This applies to mail addressed to Dr and Mrs C. Hart Merriam, Mrs V. Elizabeth Merriam, and Miss Zenaida Merriam.

Respectfully,

*C. Hart Merriam*

Lagunitas, Calif.

Dec. 31, 1920

Mr S. H. Powell  
Keystone Garage  
San Francisco

Dear Sir:

Sometime ago I told you that I expected to be in Washington before the end of the year. But the severe rains interfered with the completion of my field work and I am still at Lagunitas and shall be here for another week or ten days. So please send check or money order for balance to me here.

Very truly yours,

*C. Hart Merriam*

Lagunitas, Calif.  
Jan. 1, 1921

Dear Miss Eastwood:

That was a most perfect and beautiful picture of a bunch of lovely golden poppies that you sent us on Christmas, and we all thank you for it.

When you were here you gathered a fine lot of mushrooms, but you should see the new ones that have sprung up since. I didn't suppose there were so many in the whole United States.

Well, Arch and Angie certainly did give us a surprise! They seem to be very happy and well mated. And you have been most kind and helpful to them--as you always are to people who need you.

We have not yet set a date for leaving beautiful Lagunitas, and I for one am sorry that we have to go east at all. Expect to see you before we go.

With love from us all,  
*Charles & Marion*



Lagunitas, Calif.  
Jan. 5, 1921

Mr. George E. Kendall  
Manor, Calif.

Dear Mr Kendall:

Enclosed is check on Crocker Bank for \$25 in payment for the cooler. The thing is so fine and well made that I guess I'll have to confiscate it for a menagerie.

Thanking you for attending to this, as well as the previous work,

Very truly yours,

*C. M. H. H. H. H.*

Lagunitas, Calif.  
Jan. 10, 1921

Mr S.H. Powell  
Keystone Garage, San Francisco.

My dear Sir:

On returning to Lagunitas last evening I found your letter enclosing check for \$70, the same being balance in full on purchase of my Chevrolet Big-6 car (1913 model), for which I am obliged.

In compliance with your request I am enclosing herewith bill of sale in two forms, as I forgot to ask whether or not you wished to have the price stated.

Very truly yours,

*C. Hart Merriam*

Lagunitas, Calif.  
Jan. 9, 1921

This is to certify that I have sold to S. H. Powell my Chevrolet Big-6 car (1913 model), and have received payment in full.  
Calif. State License No. for 1920, 410-614.

*C. Hart Merriam*

Lagunitas, Calif.  
Jan. 9, 1921

Saint Clair H. Powell  
To C. Hart Merriam, Dr.

To one Chevrolet Big-6 automobile, 1913. . . . . \$325.00

License No. in 1920, 410-614.

*C. Hart Merriam*



January 28, 1921

Dear Julia:

On returning to Washington on the 25th inst. I was glad to find your letter of the 20th in my mail. Since our arrival we have been busy cleaning house and getting the fires going in the hope of taking the chill out of the house. Elizabeth has contracted a bad cold, doubtless from inhaling too much dust, but we trust will be in usual health before long.

We had heavy rains in California for some weeks prior to our departure, as a result of which spring set in prematurely and the fields and mountain slopes are beautifully green with fresh grass. Spring flowers also are coming out daily. It is not pleasant to leave our beautiful forests of perpetual green and come back to a country where the trees are all naked in winter.

Vernon seems to be improving a little, according to last accounts from Florence. Elizabeth will write you when she has the house settled.

I have just been to the safe deposit vault and have clipped your coupon which is enclosed herewith. Sorry I was not able to get it to you earlier.

With love from us all, as ever,

Yours,

*Hart*

Mrs. C. L. Merriam  
1008 Washington Street  
Watertown, New York

January 28, 1921

Capt. Lyon de Camp  
Thendara, New York

Dear Lyon:

Your letter of the 23rd inst. reached me on our return from California a few days ago.

Yes, I should be mighty glad to have some of the photographs you mention of the Indians who attended your celebration last June.

Just now we are actively engaged in shoveling the summer's dirt out of our house and trying to get the chill off. In a few days we shall be in normal condition I trust, and all of us will be mighty glad to see you whenever you can come.

Hoping to see you soon, as ever,

Yours,

*C. Hart Merriam*

*Your aunt Elizabeth says to come right to us when you will find a room & bunk if nothing else.*



February 4, 1921

Capt. Lyon de Camp  
Thendara  
New York

Dear Lyon:

Many thanks for your letter of the 1st inst. and accompanying set of photographs of Indians forwarded to me by your lawyer in New York in exchange for the legal documents which your stenographer put into my envelope and which I immediately forwarded to said attorney in New York.

The pictures certainly are surprisingly good and show many interesting peculiarities of ceremonial dress as well as interesting poses and associations. Several of the headdresses bear a striking resemblance to those of the Blackfeet and other tribes of the Northern Plains regions. The women and girls are a fine-looking lot.

I appreciate the photographs and also the trouble you have taken in labeling them so carefully -- the labels adding immensely to their permanent value.

De Camp -- 2

Do not put off coming down here too long or something may happen that will prevent your coming. Besides, we are hoping to return to California in the early spring.

Trusting that we shall see you here in the near future, and with best wishes,

As ever,

Yours,

C. Hart



Feb. 5, 1920

Carnie-Gondie Mfg. Co.  
Kansas City, Missouri.  
Sirs:

Your letter of January 26, enclosing check for \$1.87 and addressed to me at Lagunitas, California, has today reached me here.

As I have previously written you, and as your records should show, the coat I returned on September 9 was the one I paid you \$4.00 for--not 1.87.

You still owe me therefore a balance of \$2.13, which I shall be obliged if you will remit at your early convenience.

*C. M. [unclear]*

Carnie-Goudie Mfg. Co.  
Kansas City, Missouri.  
Sirs:

Feb. 5, 1920

Your letter of January 26, enclosing check for \$1.87 and addressed to me at Legunitas, California, has today reached me here.

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You still owe me therefore a balance of \$2.13, which I shall be obliged if you will remit at your early convenience.

C. Hatt Hurian -



Feb. 5, 1921

Board of Managers  
Cosmos Club, Washington.

Dear Sirs:

Is there any such thing as a "Retired class" in the Cosmos Club, or any provision for antiquated members who never use the Club but who would prefer not to resign altogether?

I have paid "Active" members dues for 34 years altho for the past 25 years I have not used the Club except to attend a few Committee meetings and evening meetings of Affiliated Societies, and do not expect to use the Club again during the remainder of my life. And still, because of old associations, I dislike to resign.

For the past ten years I have had a home in California (at a place called Lagunitas) but return to Washington for the winter. Both last year and this year I did not come to Washington until January--arriving this year on January 25. And I expect to return to California in April. But I would not care to promise to spend less than three months in Washington in future.

Herewith I am enclosing Active Members dues for the first quarter of 1921.

Very truly yours,

C. Hart

Feb. 5, 1921

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Cosmos Club, Washington.

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Herewith I am enclosing Active Members dues for the first quarter of 1921.

Very truly yours,

C. Hart Merriam



Feb. 5, 1921

Mr C. M. Kraham  
American Motors Corporation  
Plainfield, New Jersey.

Dear Sir:

Thanks for your's of the 2d instant.

It is possible that I shall want a new car in the near future. Have you an agent in this city? If not, who and where is your nearest agent?

Whose ignition do you use?

How much extra do you charge for adding a Bosch magneto to the equipment?

What is the weight of the 5-Passenger Touring car?

Very truly yours,

C. Hartman -

Feb. 6, 1921

Mr A. Bonaiti  
Lagunitas, Calif.

Dear Mr Bonaiti:

Many thanks for your letter of the last of January, telling me that the coat was actually delivered to the Carnie-Goudie Co. They failed to answer my letters of inquiry.

I am obliged also for your kindness in giving me the rainfall up to January 31. The amount would seem to be enough for a whole year.

We had no trouble in opening our house this year, and found everything all right. No snow here now, for which we are thankful.

Very truly yours,

C. Hartman -

February 23, 1921

Mr. D. L. Hazard  
Secretary Cosmos Club  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Thanks for your letter of the  
17th inst. informing me that the Board of Manage-  
ment has transferred my name from the Resident to  
the Non-resident List. Please convey to the Board  
my appreciation of their action in the matter.

Very truly yours,

*C. Holt*



1919 Sixteenth St.  
Washington, D. C.  
February 24, 1921

Dear Dr. Stephens:

Very many thanks for your cordial and sympathetic letter of the 17th inst. which arrived a few minutes ago.

I am getting on splendidly as you will see from the fact that this morning I set up to eat my breakfast, and am going to sit up again in a little while. I have had no temperature and no drawback of any kind, and everything has gone on nicely at the house except that Elizabeth has taken cold.

You surely made a safe guess as to my desire to get hold of the wheel of a car, particularly the American Six.

We three are greatly delighted to know that you may be here April 18 - 22 during the session of the International Ophthalmological Congress. This will be an excellent time to be here and we all hope that Mrs. Stephens will be able to come with you. You will of course stay with us.

You got ahead of me on your income tax return. My own is still staring me in the face, but I hope to tackle it tomorrow.

We hope that little Stuart is fully recovered, and that you are all well and happy.

With love to you all from Elizabeth, Zensaida and myself,

As ever yours,

*C. Hart Merriam*

February 24, 1921

Miss Ruth Hill, Editor-in-Chief  
The Gorham Press  
194 Boylston Street  
Boston, 17, Mass.

Replying to your letter of the 7th inst, would say that I have only recently returned from the season's field work in California, and at present have no manuscript ready for publication. I have on hand a very large quantity of ethnological material relating to the native tribes of California, but the only nearly complete manuscript of popular interest is that on the Indians of Yosemite.

I have also been urged to put in book form for boys a series of stories of field experiences under some such title as 'Adventures of a Field Naturalist in North America', but as yet have not had time to put them in shape.

Very truly yours,

*C. Hart Merriam*



February 25, 1921

Dear Florence and VB:

In one of your late letters to Z you told her to make note of Stephen Hart, Farmington, Conn., but said nothing as to why she should make this note and what should be done with it.

Probably all of your letters have been received. The one addressed to the hospital was forwarded. And they have proved most interesting.

No, I have not been treated to date with any salt solution. I had no ether, only a local anaesthetic.

I am now well, but will not be allowed to go down stairs until Monday, which is three days from now. Dr. Dan discharged me last night.

We had an inch or so of snow Saturday night and Sunday, but it did not last, so there has been no interruption to automobile navigation so far.

Glad to have the additional information about our Twin Oaks cousins, but there are still several things that I do not understand.

Is the Post Office Twin Oaks or San Marcos?

Does Helen take the name Merriam or Green?

What is Virginia's full name? I never did know her last name. Neither did I know that she had a boy. How old is he?

Does Virginia live in the school house building where she lived many years ago under the Twin Oaks, or in that

(2)

pretty cottage which the parents of some of her students built for her? In other words, is there a vacant cottage which might be rented? If so, is it furnished, half furnished, or not furnished at all?

We all are greatly interested in the lovely little booklet Vernon sent us showing the various nooks and corners of your tent home. It was mighty kind and thoughtful of him to take the trouble to make it.

It must be great fun to watch the birds at your feeding table, especially such interesting ones as Phainopepla, and such exceedingly rare ones as the Gila Woodpecker and Pyr-rhuloxia.

And I would give a lot of old boots to see the nocturnal performance of your menagerie. I do not yet understand about those disks. Are they tin or wood? And when a critter runs on them does he stay in the same place or whirl around with the disk? Vernon's illustrations were most graphic and entertaining.

But I never dreamed that any relations of mine would be such tenderfeet as to sleep on an air mattress! Surely you are getting old and infirm. And you say you can blow the thing up with your mouth! Lord, what gas-bags you must have become. I can remember an old inflatable chair-seat which Father brought home some fifty years ago, which nearly gave the entire family apoplexy in trying to blow up. And yet you folks have enough spare wind to blow up a whole mattress! If I ever get old enough and undignified enough to require such a luxury, I will certainly accompany it by the most modern high-power tire



(3)

pump to be found.

Lyon de Camp arrived here yesterday for a little visit. He looks well physically but is mentally tired from the strain of his big business operations in the Adirondacks. His wife and children are spending the winter in Hollywood near Los Angeles -- the children in school. At the present moment Lyon is splitting fireplace wood down cellar.

Dr. Stephens is coming here about the middle of April to attend an Ophthalmological Convention, so we are likely to remain until the first of May.

The Northumberland is selling its apartments, not renting any more. Our lease expires the last of September, at which time we are obliged to vacate. And since it is out of the question for me to return and move at that time of year, we shall have to move before we go to California, which means April. But where we can find rooms is a most serious question. I have inquired at the Ontario and find that they have a waiting list of 400. It now looks as if nothing is to be had in the City, and we may have to pack everything into our own house before we leave. Fortunately the garage is capacious and has a good solid concrete floor, so we can safely leave the safes and heavy steel files there.

With love to you both,

*aff. Hart*

March 2, 1921

Mr. Gilbert Grosvenor  
President National Geographic Society

Dear Mr. Grosvenor:

I have not received a bill for 1921 dues as a member of the National Geographic Society, but saw by the advertisement in the February number of the magazine that the dues have been increased to \$3.50.

Mrs. Florence Johnson, 1700 Eleventh Street, has asked me to send her dues also, as she is anxious to continue receiving the magazine.

I am therefore enclosing my check for \$7.00 to cover both.

Very truly yours,

*C. Hart Merriam*

March 12, 1921

Frank S. Betz Co.  
Hammond, Indiana.

Dear Sirs:

Thanks for recent Catalog of Surgical Supplies.

Enclosed is my check for \$9.40, for which please send  
me the following:

2L3583. 1500 special Paper Towels . . . . . \$3.25

2L1552. Sponge bowls (4in .45 & 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ in .70) . . . . . 1.156L1100. Sanitary Waste bucket, large size . . . . . 5.00 \$9.40Please ship by express, addressed to my house, 1919 16th Street,  
Washington, D.C. and oblige.

C. Hart American -



Wash. D.C.  
March 14, 1921

Dr. W. Barclay Stephens,  
1250 Bay Street,  
Alameda, California.

Dear Dr. Stephens:

Pardon my delay in replying to your most welcome letter of the 3d instant. Since getting out I have been at the office nearly every day, and have been to the Museum twice. As you may imagine, I am overwhelmed with accumulated work. Just now I am trying to straighten out the bear skulls that came in during my long absence, and to see that the hunters are properly paid for them. As soon as this job is out of the way, I shall tackle my last season's California notes.

Elizabeth has been doubly delayed in her long-promised visit to Dorothy--first by my condition, and later by a severe gripe cold which she had the misfortune to acquire. She is now nearly well and hopes to go to Cambridge tomorrow.

She and Zenaida and myself are more than delighted to know that Mrs. Stephens is really to come with you for a little visit in April.

Spring is beginning to break upon us here. Our phenomenally mild winter has continued to the present time, and now the forsythias are in flower and some of the purple crocuses have stuck their pretty heads up through the sod.

I envy the tramp you and Bruce had on February 22, but fear it will be a long time before I am again able to walk eight miles.

-2-

Yes, we have seen John C. M. a number of times this winter, and he came to see me while I was laid up, both at the hospital and at the house. Then he came down with a very severe influenza, accompanied by a temperature of 103° or more, and was laid up in bed for some time. He has just left for a short trip to California, and expects to return via Tucson, Arizona, whence he will run out to the Baileys' camp in the foot-hills of the Santa Rita Mountains.

Thanks for the automobile baby clippings--pretty good!

In returning home from California we nearly always come Union Pacific and Chicago & Northwestern to Chicago, and thence to Washington either by the Pennsylvania or the Baltimore & Ohio. As a rule we take the B. & O., as it makes the best connection with the Overland Limited No. 2 at Chicago, allowing, as I remember it, about an hour and three quarters between trains. The Overland Limited is due to arrive in Chicago at 9:00 a.m., while the B. & O. leaves Chicago for Washington at 10:45 a.m., arriving here at 9:00 the following morning.

With love from us all to you all, as ever,

Yours,

C. Hart Merriam



March 30, 1921

Dr. Thomas Leslie Macdonald,  
1501 Massachusetts Avenue,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Macdonald:

Very many thanks for your kindness in giving me 'Eustachius'. It is the Roman edition of 1728 and differs materially from the original edition of 1714 which I already had. It is set up throughout from new and different type and possesses a beautifully engraved frontispiece, lacking in the first edition. And the title page is quite different and is in two colors, whereas the original was wholly in black. The anatomical illustrations appear to be the same.

It evidently is a very rare book and I thank you most heartily for adding it to my anatomical library.

With best wishes.

Very truly yours,

C. Hart Merriam



March 31, 1921

P. H. Cochrane,  
Assessor,  
San Rafael, California.

Dear Sir:

The enclosed assessment list was received from you this morning.

As in previous years I am unable to fill out the blank for real estate and improvements and shall be greatly obliged if you will again have the description copied from my original statement on file in your office.

The only changes from previous years are the purchase of a Chevrolet automobile for \$1400 in July last and the erection of a small lean-to behind my house at a cost for carpenter and lumber of about \$140. My old automobile, entered in previous lists, was sold last year. Otherwise the list stands as formerly.

Very truly yours,

*C. Hart Merriam*

*My Personal tax is paid in Washington D.C.*

April 1, 1921

My dear Florence:


A very funny thing has happened. Last night our postman brought me a freight-arrival notice addressed to you, announcing the receipt of two boxes of pine cones from Pacific Grove, California. This morning I tackled the freight office, with the result that two gunny sacks (not boxes) of cones are now reposing in my garage, where they await your pleasure.

At first I thought it a put-up job, but it may turn out all right. It is better than a sack of rattlesnakes, anyhow.

We have had a light rain, followed by a glorious cold wave, so now we feel like living again.

Zenaida has been attending the conferences and dinner of the Association of College Alumnae, with the result that I have seen little of her this week. The thing will wind up tonight or tomorrow, after which we trust affairs will resume their normal course.

Marion's purple magnolia a few days ago was a thing of glory, but since the cold wave landed it looks like a frostbitten potato patch.

As ever, 

Mrs. Florence Merriam Bailey,  
Continental, via Tucson,  
Arizona.



April 2, 1923

Je  
Ir  
De

Mailliard & Schmiedell,  
230 California Street,  
San Francisco, California.

an

Dear Sirs:

On reading over my Lagunitas insurance policy this morning I am horrified to find that the policy is void if the house is vacant for more than ten days. I find no waiver to this clause.

This, if true, renders my insurance absolutely worthless to me; as the house is vacant not only half of the year but also for more than ten days at a time at frequent intervals during the summer when I am engaged in field work.

I shall be greatly obliged if you will kindly have the necessary clause sent me so that I may attach it to the policy; otherwise the policy had better be cancelled in toto.

Very truly yours,

E. West Harrison

April 7, 1921

John A. Koons, Esq., President  
Iron Clad Roofing Co., Washington.

Dear Sir:

I hereby accept your bid of \$97 for slag-roofing my garage and doing the other work specified in your letter of the 8th instant.

I also accept your bid of \$15 for putting heavy Galv. iron mesh around the skylight frame, it being understood that both jobs will be completed in the next few days.

Resp.

*E. Hart Merriam*

Premises, 1919 16th Street



April 12, 1921

Mailliard & Schmiedell,  
203 California Street,  
San Francisco, California.

Dear Sirs:

Very many thanks for your letter of the 6th instant enclosing an Endorsement Slip to be attached to my Atlas Policy No. 2902269, granting permission for said dwelling to remain vacant without notice, it being understood that said building shall be under the care of some competent person.

The house was left in charge of Mr. Pompeo Martinelli, as is always the case when we are away for any length of time.

Thanking you for your attention in the matter,

Very truly yours,

*C. West Harrison*

Wash DC  
April 12, 1921

Dear Helen:

Your letter of the 8th instant came yesterday. You are mistaken in thinking that I ever wrote a monograph on Mount Rainier. I did a lot of work there some years ago, but have never published the results excepting, perhaps, a few small technical papers describing new species. I have, however, perpetrated a brief essay on the attempt to change its name, a copy of which I am sending you herewith.

I doubt if I have anything which I would be willing to let your friend Betsford have for his anthology. When a man works hard for a long time to accomplish a definite task he usually prefers to keep the results of it himself rather than give them away.

I infer from your letter that you are well or you would not be meeting so many friends. I sometimes hear eulogies of your lovely children from your dear father.

I have practically recovered, although I shall have to avoid strains for some little time to come.

With love from us all,

Your affectionate uncle,

*Hart*

Mrs. Peter Golden,  
1245 Amsterdam Avenue,  
New York City.



Mr P. Martinelli  
Lagunitas, Calif.

April 24, 1921

Dear Mr Martinelli:

Thanks for your letter of the 16th inst. We are very glad to hear from Lagunitas and to know that our house is all right.

And Mrs Merriam and Zenaida are particularly pleased to hear that the baby fruit trees are doing so well, and that you have put wire cages around them.

I have been delayed by the trouble in my side. I had to go to the Hospital as soon as we got our house open and the furnace fire agoing. They put me on the dissecting table and ripped me open and worked over me for nearly two hours, after which I didn't feel first rate for a month or so. But I am getting along all right now and can walk a couple of miles if I don't go too fast, but they won't let me lift or carry anything for a long time.

We are having a lot of scientific meetings here now but they will be over by the 5th or 6th of May, after which we hope to pack up for California. There is just one thing that may delay us. The building in which my office has been located for eleven years is to be sold and I may have to move out. If so, we will be delayed again, as it will take some time to move my 5 rooms full of safes and cases and desks to some other place.

I have just paid your Geographic Society dues (\$3.50) and am enclosing check for \$5.00 for wire and services, as per your mem.

Mrs Merriam and Zenaida join me in regards to you all, and we all hope to see you before long.

Very truly yours,

C. Hart Merriam



Wash. DC

April 25, 1921

Dear Florence:

Dr. and Mrs. Stephens left yesterday after a week's very pleasant visit. This will explain why I have not written earlier.

Lyon has not been here since the time I wrote you a while ago.

The National Academy met this morning and will continue in session for three days as usual. Then comes the Mammal Society beginning on May second, and an unusually important meeting of the Government Geographic Board beginning on the third. Just how I shall be able to preside at two meetings in different parts of the city at the same time has not yet been satisfactorily worked out.

About your route East: It seems to me that it will be a fine thing for everybody if you join the Clements in their automobile trip from Tucson to Albuquerque.

From Albuquerque east you can go Santa Fe to Kansas City and thence to Minnesota any way you like. But if you prefer you can go from a little south of Albuquerque east to Vaughn, and thence take the El Paso and Rock Island northeasterly into Kansas. But this is likely to have awkward connections.

I am enclosing Santa Fe maps herewith. You will be able to get the current time table at either Tucson or Albuquerque.

We are all reasonably well and have hopes of continuing.

Today is fearfully hot and muggy.

We have just come from the White House where the National Academy was received by President Harding.

The Stephens sent their kindest regards to you both.

Hastily,

Mrs. Vernon Bailey  
Continental  
Arizona

May 9, 1921.

Mr. J. E. Battenfield,  
738 Thirteenth St. Northwest,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of the 3rd instant about refinishing the basement bath room in my house, would state that the Guarantee Iron Roofing Company people have not yet completed their job of waterproofing the leaks in the back part of the garage and neighborhood of the kitchen door, although they agreed to do this more than a month ago.

As a result of recent rains, the rear walls of the bath room are not likely to dry out in time for refinishing before my departure for California. I regret this but fear the job will have to be deferred until my return in the fall.

Very truly yours,

C. Heston



Wash DC.  
May 12, 1921.

Dear Florence and VB:

You evidently slipped a cog in mailing some of your letters as several of different dates arrived in the same mail.

We were worried at not hearing from you for so long and I don't see why you didn't write me at once when VB's trouble began. I am sending you by this mail a bottle of Ipecac tablet triturates 1 X which, by the way, I had quite a hunt for in this benighted town. If he has a recurrence of diarrhoea, he should take one of these every hour for the first five or six hours, and then every two hours while awake until well. There is no danger of any kind connected with them unless by long continued use they should produce a little nausea. If so, omit for awhile; but this is not apt to happen.

I am forwarding to Dorothy your letter from Mrs. Gilbert. She will return it to you or send it to Coll.

Your letter didn't get here in time to enable us to write you at Tucson, so we are writing to Albuquerque.

The display act of the White Winged Dove is new to me. I should like to see it.

Just now we are thinking of you as having a glorious trip on the way to Albuquerque and wish we could be with you.

Vernon was badly missed at the Mammal meeting, but Goldman

Mr. Vernon Bailey.

presented his material. Unhappily I had to be absent part of the time for the reason that I had to be in the chair at a Government Geographic Board's hearing when two delegations were attempting to influence us to change the name of Mt. Ranier. One delegation wanted Lincoln -- the other Tacoma, as usual. Both delegations presented sentimental tirades in which historical facts were distorted, and in several cases misstated, and pertinent facts omitted. However, the result was to disgust every member of the Board so that at the final vote fourteen ballots were cast against any change. There are just fourteen members of the Board. Let us hope the matter will rest for the balance of my lifetime at least.

At the Mammal meeting I declined reelection and we put in Nelson as President. Elizabeth got up the lunch at the Zoo the last day.

By reason of the recent meetings of the National Academy, Mammal Society and Geographic Board, and various duties connected therewith, I have lost a lot of time so that we cannot yet say when we shall pull out for California. The matter of the office is still in the air though I fear we shall have to move.

In looking over Zenas Leonard's Narrative of Adventures in the Far West I was pleased to see that he recorded Buffalo as killed by the Walker Expedition north of the west part of Great Salt Lake in early August 1834. This must have been a lap over of the Bear River herd.

With love to you both,

As ever,



001

May 12, 1921.

Collector of Taxes,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I shall be obliged if you will kindly send me tax bill for my property on east side of Sixteenth Street, corner of Caroline, embracing lots 50, 49, and the north 10 $\frac{1}{2}$  feet of 48, Square 190.

I shall be obliged also if you will send me tax bill for property of my sister, Mrs. Florence Merriam Bailey, for lots 46, 47, and south 7 $\frac{1}{2}$  feet of 48, Square 190 (adjoining my own lots on the south); also for Mrs. Florence Merriam Bailey's house and lot, 183 $\frac{1}{2}$  Kalorama Road.

Respectfully,

*C. Hart Merriam*

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May 16, 1921.

Dear Florence:

Not knowing whether you had or had not arranged about the payment of your taxes, I went to the District Building this morning and secured the enclosed bills for your two lots south of my house on Sixteenth Street. The lot adjoining Mrs. Baker's house is taxed \$61.43, the adjoining one on the north \$57.33, in all \$118.76. Can you send your check for this amount, or do you want me to pay it? It must be paid before the end of the present month.

I inquired also for the tax bill for your house and lot on Kalerama Road and found that it had been paid on May 4 -- by whom I do not know.

Hoping you had a good trip north and that all is well with you both,

As ever,  
*Handwritten signature*

Mrs. Vernon Bailey,  
Elk River, Minn.

May 21, 1921.

Dear Collins:

Thanks for yours of the 19th just received. My memory of the contents of my old Museum is too hazy to admit of forming any definite judgment. So I shall say that if there are things there which I would like to save, I will never know anything about it unless somebody tells me. Hence if you agree to give the stuff away there will be no kick from my end of the line.

Glad to know that Fred and Lyman have something in sight that may turn out worth while.

You had better take that case of drawers, for when they have become thoroughly dry you will find them mighty useful. My recollection is that if you pull off the trim around the edges you will have no difficulty in prying out the case.

I will stir Nelson up about the Beaver and see what he has to say.

We have lost a number of able men the past week -- Chief Justice White, Justice Gould (formerly our near neighbor), Franklin K. Lane, and Dr. E. B. Rosa, Chief Physicist of the Bureau of Standards.

Last evening Elizabeth and Zenaida attended the reception to Madam Curie, the discoverer of Radium, while I went to bed and had a good sleep.

Mr. C. Collins Merriam

Congratulations on your electric lighting of the Collins Farm. As soon as practicable after reaching Lagunitas, I expect to install the Delco System which will give us electric lighting and also power.

We expected to go to Lagunitas long ago, but various matters have delayed us, and just now the outlook is most discouraging. The Northumberland owners decline to renew leases and are selling the apartments. Thus far Zenaida and I have searched in vain for a place to move into, all respectable apartments in the City being full to overflowing; besides, the good ones are charging terrible rents.

With love to you all,

As ever,

*Hart*

Mr. C. Collins Merriam,  
Lyons Falls, New York.



May 23, 1921.

Dear Mrs. Harriman:

Ever since you were here we have kept an eye open for apartments in the hope of finding something into which our material could be moved; and during the past week I have personally searched the town without success. There are plenty of desirable apartments at exorbitant rates, but nothing within our means.

Next week I expect to move our six safes, thirty vertical file cases, twelve bookcases, three large map cases, three desks and several tables, with other office furniture, into my garage and house in the hope that by filing an order now I may be able to secure an apartment on returning from California in the late fall.

We hope to leave here the first week in June, and as soon as settled at Lagunitas to set out at once on field work in northern California. During the past two years I have had un-  
hoped for success in locating remnants of Indian tribes sup-  
posed to be extinct, and I still have reports of the existence of one or two survivors of other supposedly extinct tribes, which it is important to reach at the earliest possible moment.

I am most anxious to complete field work among these north-

Mrs. E. H. Harriman

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ern California Indians as early as possible and at the same time to complete field work on the distribution of California animals and plants in order to get more time for final work on the Bears and other groups of mammals. Last year we secured 125 more skulls of Bears, and a few others have recently arrived from remote localities in British Columbia and Alaska. Just now I am trying to complete two short articles on the group.

If you come to California during the summer, I hope you will let us know.

With best wishes,

Very truly yours,

*C. Hart Harriman*

Mrs. E. H. Harriman,  
1 East 69th St.  
New York City.



June 2, 1921.

Dear Florence and Vernon:

After a series of disappointments and direful tribulations, we have finally left the Northumberland and moved into our house and garage. My desk and Miss Clemence's are in the parlor; Zenaida's and Mrs. Clark's in the diningroom; bookcases in both rooms and in the hall; 30 steel vertical file cases, 5 steel safes, and several other articles in the garage; small stands, tables, pamphlets, and all kinds of odds and ends distributed on the steps of the stairs, and in G. K's room in the third story.

We searched the various apartments for a couple of weeks without success, not finding anything suitable for less than \$115. or more per month.

So now, as soon as we can get ready, we shall pack up and pull out for Lagunitas.

Glad you saw Chester and found him in such good condition.

Hastily yours,

Hart

Duluth, Minn.



701

June 10, 1921.

Dear Julia:

Enclosed is your June coupon.

Recently we have had a sad experience: The Northumberland refused to renew leases, and is selling its apartments outright to those who have money enough and are foolish enough to buy them. This meant that we had to get out before the expiration of our lease. Zenaida and I spent a great deal of time in hunting for a suitable apartment elsewhere, but failed to find any at a rental of \$100. per month or less, the good ones asking \$120. or more. So we had to move into the house. The garage is chuck full of steel safes and file cases, while twelve series of sectional bookcases are now standing in the dining room and parlor. There are also in the dining room two desks, and in the parlor two more. The remainder of the office furniture, pictures, baskets, and all sorts of odds and ends are stowed away in various parts of the house from basement to third story. This has been a most trying ordeal; but it is accomplished, and we hope to secure an office on our return in the late fall.

We are now beginning to pack for Lagunitas, and hope to get off in a few days.

With love and best wishes,

As ever,

Mrs. C. L. Merriam,  
1008 Washington St., Watertown, N.Y.



July 14, 1921

Dear Florence:

We returned from our northern trip night before last and found your letter of the 8th inst. which we were very glad to have.

It is a joy to know that you have located in such a convenient and agreeable place where you have a good roof over your heads and can get something to eat without the bother of cooking it, if you feel so inclined, and with farm products nearby.

We had a most glorious and most successful trip of something over 800 miles, going up Sacramento Valley to Red Bluff and thence westerly to the Coast near the mouth of Eel River. Since VB and I went over much of the same route on horseback many years ago, he will be interested in certain details, as follow:

We climbed Beegun Grade and continued westerly through splendid Ponderosa and Douglas Spruce forest to Peanut; thence turned north to Hay Fork Valley; then north over high rugged and very irregular mountains and down <sup>to</sup> Trinity River at Douglas; thence north to Weaverville; then west over La Grange Mountain to Junction; then down Trinity River by the new road as far as it is built (about 22 or 23 miles). Here we turned about and came back to Weaverville and thence south over same route to Hay Fork (where

B. Z.

we made a detour) and on to Peanut. Thence up Salt Creek to summit of high ridge and down Post Creek Canyon to South Fork Trinity; thence over South Fork Mountain to Mad River, and over the ridge to the Van Duzen. The present road, instead of following the Van Duzen down as VB and I did on horseback, winds up over steep and high mountains to Larrabee Creek and thence down to Bridgeville. From Bridgeville out we followed a good road through Redwoods to Hydesville and Fortuna. VB will remember this on account of our terrible ride in the rain with the Hog Ranch girl. After we finished work in the Fortuna country, we came back through the grand Redwood forests of main Eel and South Fork Eel to Russian River. Thence down Russian River and home -- one of the finest trips we ever made.

Having told this much for the benefit of VB, I will tell you a great secret for the benefit of your own self. Namely, To wit: That going west from Red Bluff we hit Phainopepla a few miles out and continued among them to the crossing of the South Fork Cottonwood and for some miles beyond. We also found in the same place Harporyhynchus and Yellow-breasted Chats -- pretty fine, eh? While in the mountains, heard robins and thrushes sing nearly every morning at 4:20.

Miss Clemence is here today to help out with some letters. With love to you both,

As ever,

Heath



July 14, 1921

Assessor  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Will you kindly send me the necessary blank for recording my Personal and Intangible Taxes? Please address me at Lagunitas, Marin County, Calif.

Very truly yours,

*Chas. Morrison*  
(7/14/21)

July 24, 1921

Dear Mrs Morrison:

Ever since we returned to California I have been intending to write to tell you what a delightful time Olive gave us in Chicago. But we set out on a long field trip as soon as possible after reaching Lagunitas, and during the short time since our return have installed a Delco Lighting and power plant so that we now have a flood of electric light and power for all sorts of things--including hot-point iron, Sun-heater and so on.

When we arrived in Chicago Olive and Osgood met us at the train, and Olive had provided a friend with a Packard car to take Elizabeth and Zenaida for a drive while Osgood showed me some of the great things in the new Museum. Then we all gathered at Olive's new and beautiful and most comfortable--not to say luxuriant--apartment, where she regaled us with a simply wonderful dinner--one of those delicious top-notch affairs which a man is in luck if he strikes once in a decade. And then, so that there might be no reaction in the crowded streets, she and her friend had the additional kindness to carry us and our grips to the station in the big car! It certainly was a great treat and a most happy break in the journey.

How are you, and where are you going for your vacation? We wish you could come out here to enjoy our cool days and beautiful country. Nights the temperature falls to 48° or 49°, while daytimes it rarely rises above 72°.

With love from us all, as ever yours,

*Chas. Morrison*



August 4, 1921

Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Co.

Dear Sirs:

On returning to Lagunitas from field work I find enclosed bills amounting to \$14.81 for unused telephone in my house at Washington (1919 16th Street), for which amount my check is herewith.

My house was closed on June 15, as your office was notified at the time, and you had turned off the phone before we left. The house will remain closed until November.

Is it not your practice to deduct for summer absences?

Very truly yours,

*E. Hart Merriam*



August 27, 1921

Dear Florence and Vernon:

On returning to Lagunitas night before last after our trip of about three weeks along the northern coast, we were glad to find your letters of August 6 and 7 and a postal announcing your departure for Lyons Falls.

First I want to thank VB for the address of his friend Humes of the Olympics, who has the wolf skull. I have just written him, and have also written for the book on Olympic Mammals which he tells about.

You seem to have furnished loads of entertainment to a family of young beavers, but there is an obvious gap in the information transmitted me so that I am not clear as to just what you are talking about.

It is good that you have gone to the Falls and will be able to ascertain the actual facts about the depredations of the Adirondack beaver, concerning which the Biological Survey seems to be somewhat skeptical. Collins will put you on the track of a lot of things and Lyon DeCamp will be able, I suspect, to furnish a good deal additional.

Our last trip was one of the best we have ever made. We drove 818 miles, besides which I made a trip across the mountains north-east of Humboldt Bay to Trinity River and up Trinity to Burnt Ranch. Returning to Eureka, we drove to Trinidad and beyond as

Mrs. Vernon Bailey 2

far as the Lagoons, camping in the splendid Redwood forest at Big Lagoon, while I worked with Indians at Stone Lagoon 8 miles further north, traversing the bracken barrens morning and night. In all, worked half a dozen or more tribes, most of which are on the verge of extinction, and obtained a splendid lot of material.

As soon as I am able to write up the things from this trip we shall start on another, as the season is already getting late and it is a good plan to be out of the northwest coast country when the rains begin.

With love to Call and Flo and Augusta and Lyman and Lyon and all the rest of the good people.

As ever

*H. S. G.*



September 6, 1921

Mr. W. H. Starbuck  
Santa Rosa, Calif.

Dear Sir:

On returning from my last field trip in the northern part of the State, I found your bill dated July 23 awaiting attention. I assume that this date was an error for August, as the bill had not arrived up to the date of my departure on August 6 -- on which date I tried hard to find you in Santa Rosa, but failed.

In looking over the items in your bill, I find some rather long charges which would appear to be subject to revision. For instance, you have charged me 5 cents per foot for 200 feet of lamp cord, the retail price of which everywhere appears to be 4 cents. Furthermore it is cord which I told you from the first I did not want in my house and which I have since replaced in the main by the golden brown which I asked you to use.

You have charged \$13 for 52 feet of silk cord. This cord I find on inquiry in half a dozen different places in San Francisco is retailed at from 6 to 8 cents per foot, which is the price I paid for that which I bought to replace the lamp cord used by you.

There are other items also which appear to be subject to adjustment. I am therefore enclosing my check for \$200 instead of the \$225 entered on your bill.

Respectfully,  
*W. H. Starbuck*



September 6, 1921

R. A. Whall  
Metropolitan Air Goods Co.,  
Athol, Mass.

Dear Sir:

You seem to be a man of promise, but promises unfulfilled appear to be of dubious practical value.

On June 10 you stated that an air pump had been included in my order. As I wrote you later, the pump was not included, and I asked if you could not send me an attachment for an ordinary automobile tire pump. In your letter of July 20 you said that you "have already sent the pump connection." Again it has failed to arrive.

Your air goods, so far as my experience goes, give excellent satisfaction except for the circumstance that there seems to be no sensible and healthful way of inflating them. Therefore I repeat my request that you send me an attachment by which connection may be made with an automobile tire pump, if you have any such thing.

Respectfully,

*C. H. H. H. H.*

September 6, 1921

F. V. Bourns, Cashier  
Equitable Life Assurance Society  
The Munsey Building  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Herewith I am enclosing my premium of \$200, due September 1, 1921, on my life insurance policy 1557984 as per accompanying slip. I am handing you this amount in two checks of even date, one on the Crocker National Bank of San Francisco for \$75; the other on the National Metropolitan Bank of Washington, D. C. for \$125 -- \$200 in all.

Very truly yours,

*C. H. H. H. H.*



copy

Lagunitas, Calif.

Sept. 7, 1921

Dear Mrs. Allen:

A clipping sent me by Dorothy tells the sad news of Dr. Allen's death. I had hoped to see him last winter but did not go to New York. Nevertheless I heard from him thro' several friends and was thankful to learn that he was in fairly good health and still at work and as enthusiastic as ever.

The vast amount of work he accomplished was due mainly to this unquenchable enthusiasm coupled with the mental power and clearness that comes from a lifetime of steady application.

We have been friends for more than 47 years (48 or 49 I think), and altho of late our geographic separation has prevented frequent meetings yet I feel that our affection and respect for one another has never been lessened.

You have been fortunate to be the close companion and helper of such a man for so many years, and have reason -- as have all of his friends -- to be thankful that he lived so far beyond the span most of us can hope for, and still retained his mental, and to a degree also his physical vigor.

But none the less we are pained that his useful and happy life has come to an end.

With sympathy and love from us all,

As ever yours

Mrs. J. A. Allen

C. Hart Merriam



September 7, 1921

Dear Arch:

We all were glad to hear from you and have hoped that we might see you, but since returning from our last trip to the Big Lagoon north of Humboldt Bay, we have been too busy to write or make any plans ahead.

Since you were here our new water pipes from the Lagunitas system have been laid and are in operation, and Zenaida has replaced the obnoxious yellow-and-green lamp cords with dull brown that does not show up much against the redwood boards.

We have also had some company, including a man from Washington for two or three days.

On the last trip I got so much material that I have not yet finished writing up notes, and I am hoping to start north again on Friday or Saturday of this week. This time I am bound for Klamath River and shall probably leave the family behind.

The season is moving rapidly on and there is so much field work to do that I am getting frightened.

Sorry I could not see you this time, but hope for better luck on returning from the next trip.

Thanks for the clipping.

With love to you both, as ever,

C. M. M.

Mr. Arch M. Gilbert  
610 Mills Building  
San Francisco, Calif.

Sept. 10, 1921

Col. J. A. McGuire  
Outdoor Life  
Denver, Colorado.

Dear Colonel McGuire:

Many thanks for your letter of the 1st inst, with check  
for \$75 , forwarded from Washington.

The material on Present Status of the Grizzlies in the  
United States is now nearly all in--from the various western  
States--and I expect to be able to complete the article within  
a couple of months, at latest.

Am starting in the early morning on a field trip to the  
Klamath and Salmon River mountain country.

With thanks and best wishes ,

Very truly yours,

*C. Hart*



Oct. 15, 1921

James Kerney & Proctor W. Hansl  
Receivers, Am. Motors Corporation  
Plainfield, New Jersey

Sirs:

Pursuant to your notification dated October 3, 1921, I hereby  
enter claim for five hundred dollars(\$500) with interest at 8 per  
cent, on Treasury Note No. 332 dated August 11 and due November 11  
1921.

*C. Hart* *Curran*



November 17, 1921

Mr. Robert Bursner, President,  
American Motors Corporation,  
Plainfield, N. J.

My dear Sir:

On returning from California, I received your letters of October 26 and November 3, inviting me to become a member of your Advisory Committee.

While appreciating your courtesy in the matter, I am unable to accept, for the reason that membership of this committee would imply a knowledge of and attention to business of the corporation which would put me in a false position. For instance, I should be utterly unable to answer inquiries as to the present assets and liabilities of the company, the number of cars sold in 1921 and the number still on hand, the value of parts on hand, the absence of responsible agents in many of our large cities, and so on.

Neither have I any knowledge whatever of the present status of the Amco Motor Company, of which, at the instance of your company, I purchased 100 shares each of common and preferred in October 1916, or of the Plainfield Body Corporation of which, again at the instance of your company, I purchased 125 shares in May and September 1920.

I have this day received from the Stockholders Protective Committee a circular and "Reorganization Rights Certificate" accompanied by a "Consent Blank." These documents

R.B.--2.

gave my cash investment as \$2,500, which is quite erroneous, as in addition to the stock of the Amco Motor and the Plainfield Body Corporation just mentioned, I own numbered certificates from your company for 535 shares of common stock and 465 shares preferred stock, purchased at various times beginning in June 1916.

Would it not be to the interest of the corporation to be more careful in statements of the cash investments of stockholders, and also to be a little more frank in regard to the status of the affairs of the company?

What provision has been made for the payment of the Treasurer's Notes extended to November 11, interest on which was not paid?

I have just written to C. B. Penney, Secretary of the Stockholders' Protective Committee, that on receipt of a corrected "Consent Blank" I will remit the \$50 deposit and will be prepared to pay the balance one month after the plan of reorganization has taken effect.

Very truly yours,

CHM:MG



November 17, 1921

Mr. C. B. Penney, Secretary,  
Stockholders Protective Committee,  
American Motors Corporation,  
Plainfield, N. J.

Dear Sir:

I have this day received a circular from your Committee dated November 15, 1921, accompanied by a "Reorganization Rights Certificate" and a "Consent Blank."

You have entered my cash investment as \$2,500, whereas I hold numbered certificates issued by your corporation for 535 shares common stock and 485 shares preferred stock. I hold also 100 shares common and 100 preferred of the Amco Motor Company, purchased October 1916, concerning which I have had no report, and also 125 shares 8% preferred stock of the Plainfield Body Corporation purchased in May and September 1920. If, therefore, you will send me a corrected "Consent Blank", I will sign and return the same promptly.

Very truly yours,

CHM:MG

*C. B. Penney*

November 17, 1921

Mr. W. A. Elliott,  
1112 Connecticut Ave.,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your inquiry of the 14th inst., would say that my sister and myself own the vacant lots adjoining my house on the corner of Sixteenth and Caroline Streets. We are willing to sell provided we can get at least \$5 per foot net.

Very truly yours,

*C. B. Elliott*

CHM:MG

November 21, 1921

Mr. C. B. Penney, Secretary,  
Stockholders' Protective Committee,  
American Motors Corporation,  
Plainfield, N. J.

Dear Sir:

Thanks for your letter of the 19th inst.  
just received, along with corrected "Reorganization Rights  
Certificate" and "Consent Blank." The latter I have signed  
and am returning herewith along with my check for \$61.

If the new plan of reorganization goes through  
as expected, I will pay the balance of my subscription in  
one payment, subject to the cash discount mentioned in the  
footnote. You will of course inform me of the exact amount  
due and the date of payment.

What is to be done in the case of the outstanding  
Treasury notes which fell due on August 11 and were continued  
until November 11, but have not yet been paid?

Very truly yours,

CHM:MG

Encl.



November 30, 1921

Mr. Charles W. Steers,  
Evans Building,  
1420 New York Ave.,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your inquiry of yesterday, would state that the vacant lots adjoining my house on the corner of Sixteenth and Caroline Streets are for sale at a price to net \$5 per square foot. My house, 1919 Sixteenth Street, is not for sale--by which is meant that I would not sell it at what might be called a reasonable price.

Very truly yours,

*C. H. Steers*

CHM:MG

November 30, 1921

Mr. Charles W. Steers,  
Evans Building,  
1420 New York Ave.,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your inquiry of yesterday, would state that the vacant lots adjoining my house on the corner of Sixteenth and Caroline Streets are for sale at a price to net \$5 per square foot. My house, 1919 Sixteenth Street, is not for sale--by which is meant that I would not sell it at what might be called a reasonable price.

Very truly yours,

CHM:MG

November 30, 1921

Dear Julia:

Enclosed is your coupon, which falls due tomorrow.

We left California much earlier than usual and arrived here just a month ago, as you may have heard from some of the family.

I gave up all hopes of obtaining an office, owing to the unreasonably high rents, and am settled in our own house for the winter. We have two desks in the parlor, two in the dining-room, and have filled the front room of the basement with file-cases. Besides this, the garage is still full of steel file-cases, safes, and map-cases, so there is no room for a car. In fact, the cases are so crowded that one or two of them are not yet accessible. Nevertheless, this arrangement will have to do for the present winter, and we hope to return to California in the early spring.

I failed to finish my field work in the northern part of the state, but am confident I can complete it during the coming field season.

We were glad to learn from a letter from Collins a short time ago that you are looking as well as ever, and are busy as always.

If you see Augusta, please give her our love. Thus far we have had no snow and only a moderate amount of rain.

With love from us all,  
As ever yours,

Mrs. C. L. Merriam  
1008 Washington St.,  
Watertown, N. Y.



Jan. 4, 1922

Mr Comos B. Penney, Secretary  
Stockholders Protective Committee  
Am. Motors Corporation, Plainfield, N.J.

Dear Sir:

In response to your request of the 3d instant I am enclosing my check on the National Metropolitan Bank of this City for \$527.04 in payment for stock in the new company, as per your recent communications.

Very truly yours,

*Edw. Meriam*



January 9, 1922

My dear Betty:

Your interesting letter of January 1 was a fine way to begin the New Year, and was both a surprise and a delight.

I am very glad that you found a few things worth saving in my old museum at Homewood, and am glad also that your Christmas included a Parker 20-gauge shot-gun. This is fine; and reminds me of a similar event that took place in California before you were born when your Aunt Virginia Merriam (Uncle Major's youngest daughter) suddenly and unexpectedly became the proud possessor of a single-barrel 20-gauge breech-loader. The number of rabbits and California quail whose lives were abruptly terminated therefrom would surely surprise an eastern girl, and possibly her parents also!

Sorry I can't tell you about that nest; but it may have been made by a white-footed mouse.

Squirrels and chipmunks make lovely pets if caught young; but if old, are slow to tame and sometimes mistake fingertips for beech-nuts. Flying squirrels are the loveliest pets of all, and I have always found them gentle, while other squirrels and chipmunks are not always kindly disposed toward their captors.

Yes, it is possible to catch rabbits by snaring. In order to do this you have to make a little brush fence or some other kind of a low obstruction with a hole or two left open. The snares are set in these openings. Some people use wire; others string. I used to use horse-hair. The snare should be

B.H.--2.

attached to a spring-pole made by bending over a moderately stiff bush. It does not need to be as stiff as a sapling, otherwise it might shoot the rabbit up into the tree-tops so you would have to climb for him.

About woodchucks: I always caught them in steel-traps set at the mouth of their burrows, or shot them with a rifle. One year I caught 33 in our north meadow, which your grandfather and I used to call the Eleven-Acre Lot, although its size is many times eleven.

I wish you did not suffer the misfortune of living so far from California, as I would like mightily to have you out at Lagunitas and take you on our field trips through the redwoods and other interesting wild places.

Where on earth did you get those huge sheets of white paper that you wrote your letter on? They remind me of a barn door.

With love to your mother and all the rest of your good family, and with much love to yourself,

*John H. H. H.*

Miss Betty Hone,  
164 Park Avenue,  
Watertown, N. Y.





January 12, 1922

Miss Emma E. Carter, R.N.,  
Executive Assistant,  
Johns Hopkins Hospital,  
Baltimore, Md.

Thanks for your promptness in replying to  
my inquiry.

In accordance with the arrangements you  
have made I expect to report at the Hospital on  
Monday the 16th inst.

Will you kindly tell me at about what  
time of the day I had better arrive? I assume  
that the operation will be made on Tuesday.

Very truly yours,

QHM:MG

*C. Hart Merriam*



January 13, 1922

Dear Augusta:

When your entertaining husband did us the honor of a brief call a few weeks ago, I promised to send a photograph of Florasante taken by me more than 20 years ago, and which appeals to me as more attractive than other photographs I have seen.

Enclosed herewith are prints from two negatives taken from the same spot, and also a photo of the roadway back of the house.

A short time ago I was delighted to receive a most interesting letter from your naturalist daughter. Evidently she is made of the right stuff, and I wish we might have her with us in our summer field work in California.

With love to you all,

Mrs. Frederic de P. Hone  
164 Park Avenue  
Watertown, N.Y.



January 16, 1922

Dear Mrs. Harriman:

It was good to have even so brief a glimpse of you at the Carnegie reception, but I was sorry not to have an opportunity to show you the present status of our work--particularly the distribution maps. Perhaps you will let me do this sometime before spring.

Ever since my return from California I have been engaged in putting the results of the season's field work into permanent shape. But so much new material was gathered that it will still require two or three months to finish with it. However, most of the map work has been done, and most of the tribal boundaries and old village locations have been listed and platted.

A good deal of information about Bears, including some excellent stories, was obtained from Indians, and skulls of Grizzlies and other big Bears continue to come in from British Columbia, Yukon, and Alaska--every one of which helps to make the final work more accurate and authoritative.

I am enclosing a memorandum on last season's field work.

With best wishes,

Very truly yours,

Mrs. E. H. Harriman,  
1 East 69th Street,  
New York City.

# FIELD WORK IN CALIFORNIA IN 1921

Field work in California during the past season proved more fruitful than expected.

Numerous additions were made to our knowledge of the distribution of animals and plants in the northwestern part of the state, and important facts were secured concerning the former range and abundance of Grizzly Bears in the coast region. Moreover, several interesting Indian stories of the Grizzly were obtained, and hundreds of Indian names of mammals, birds, reptiles, fishes, insects, trees, and smaller plants were added to lists previously secured, along with information concerning the medicinal and textile values of a number of species.

I set out with the feeling that all of the tribes of northern California were known and that what remained to be done in my line was the determining of a few boundaries and the checking of vocabularies previously obtained. But in the course of the work two previously unknown tribes were discovered, and the territory originally held by the little known Chemareko tribe was found to be many times larger than previously known; additional village sites of this and other tribes were located, and various inter-tribal boundaries corrected.

Several years ago the Chemareko were supposed to be extinct, but two women and a man were discovered who still know not only the language, but also the ancient lore of the tribe.

Survivors of another tribe, the Konomeho, reported to have become extinct in 1901, were discovered and visited, the boundaries of their territory corrected, additional villages located, and large additions made to the vocabulary.



Survivors of several of the coast tribes for whom I had searched for years without success were finally located and important material secured. Indeed, the most important work of the year has been the rescuing of vanishing material from Indian tribes on the verge of extinction. Some of them had been previously reported as extinct. For several years past our success in locating vanishing remnants and in persuading them to give the needed information has been little short of phenomenal and has added much new material to American History.

My large-scale map showing the distribution of tribes in northern California has been nearly completed; the new tribes have been added, the boundaries of others corrected, and much additional matter incorporated. So only a few small areas remain to be completed next season.

The season's work therefore, besides contributing materially to our knowledge of the distribution of animals and plants, has added chapters to the knowledge of American History--rescuing from oblivion at the last moment information from peoples and languages on the verge of extinction.

Is it not strange that so much attention has been given to recent foreign intrusions into America, while so little trouble has been taken to ascertain the fundamental facts of distribution, migration, and mode of life of the aboriginal inhabitants of the country?


And is it not droll that shelves full of books treating of the doings of foreigners in America should bear the misleading title "American History", while hardly a word of real American History is to be found in any of them!

And is it not surprising that while bountiful provision has been made by individuals and institutions in America for historical studies in remote foreign lands, relatively little has been done toward finding out the most essential facts concerning the rapidly disappearing early inhabitants of the United States? And, of the means available for the study of our native peoples, the greater part has been or is being expended in profound grammatical analyses of the languages. As an illustration, the case may be cited of an American ethnologist of distinction who published three volumes on the language and 'culture' of a tribe without giving either the boundaries of that tribe or the names of the tribes by which it is surrounded!

In the course of last season's field work, I drove my car about 4,000 miles and traveled by rail 1,600 miles. I had been forbidden to ride horseback, but did make one trip on a horse, there being no other way of reaching an old Indian woman of a supposedly extinct tribe. She proved a rare treasure. Her mind was remarkably clear and orderly and her memory surprising.

If all goes well I expect to complete field work in northern California during the present year.

With deep appreciation of your generosity in enabling me to make these contributions to American History and to the knowledge of our native animals and plants,

Very truly yours,  




January 16, 1922

The Elite Laundry,  
2117 14th Street,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Will you kindly inform me why you have not long ago sent your check to Mrs. C. Hart Merriam, 1919 Sixteenth Street, in payment for the laundry lost some six weeks ago? You have long had complete data concerning the articles lost and their values, amounting as I understand it to \$22.00.

Please send check without further delay.

Very truly yours,

CHM:MG

January 16, 1922

Dear Arch & Angie:

Arch gave us something like a stunner at Christmas-time, but we will forgive him if he will promise never to do it again.

We are still enjoying the good things sent us for Christmas by the kind friends at Hilltop.

Your climate evidently is much milder than that at Lagunitas, as we learned from Martinelli and the Gardners. It is interesting that the two sides of a mountain mass should enjoy such climatic differences as a result of different slope exposures.

We all are glad that the Nevada-New Jersey episode has sunk into oblivion--long may it stay there.

Today I am packing my grip for Baltimore and expect to be operated on at Johns Hopkins tomorrow.

With love to you both.



February 23, 1922

Mr. Robert Burgner, President,  
American Motors Corporation,  
Plainfield, N. J.

My dear Sir:

In preparing my income tax schedule for the year 1921 I find myself in difficulty in regard to losses through American Motors.

I still hold an unpaid Treasury Note of \$500 concerning which I filed the necessary claim with the receivers before leaving California last October. Will you kindly tell me what percentage of this will be paid in the final settlement and when this settlement is likely to occur?

Have the plans of the Reorganization Committee been carried out? In other words, have the plant and properties of the old company been purchased by the new company, and is it likely the manufacture of cars will be resumed in the near future?

When will the new certificates of stock be issued?

I am troubling you in this matter for the two reasons that it is necessary to complete my income tax return before the middle of March and also because I expect to return to California at about the same date.

Very truly yours,

CHM:MG



February 27, 1922

To the entire Henderson Family

My dear Friends:

You quite overwhelm me by your generous series of epistles, and I assure you I appreciate the kindness and trouble you all took in writing me. Your packet of letters came immediately after my return from the hospital and before I had settled down to work, so you may well imagine that I was particularly glad to have them. Furthermore, the entire Merriam family was glad to have the news from the Bay Region, with the pleasant flavor of Lagunitas. The only thing lacking was an accompaniment from Henrietta, but as she was way off in Takoma with that sweet baby, we will forgive her this time.

We are quite excited to know that Herman and Margaret are building their city home in Piedmont. We hope this will not prove such a fashionable rival as to keep them away from Lagunitas.

It is good to know that the senior Hendersons are planning for a long season at Lagunitas. We hope to see you often.

Your good wishes have evidently hastened my recovery, as I am already feeling better than before the rather serious operations I underwent at Johns Hopkins Hospital. I go out for a walk every day and travel up and down stairs a number of times between breakfast and bedtime. Furthermore, am planning to return to California within a month--but not to Lagunitas first. I expect to stop to do a little work in Southern California and work northward, hoping to reach Lagunitas about the middle of April.

Our plans are not yet mature, but the chances are that Mrs. Merriam will remain here two or three weeks after I go, and then join me at Lagunitas. Zenaïda expects to go to Cambridge to stay with Dorothy until about the end of April. Meanwhile, our little grand-daughter is keeping the entire household busy. She says she is going to Lagunitas for the summer. We hope this is true.

Owing to the long distance between yourselves and the Clarks, I am dropping them a separate acknowledgment.

With affectionate regards to you all from all of us,

Very truly yours,

Mr. & Mrs. G. L. Henderson,  
Don, Herman, and Margaret,  
286 Jayne Street  
Oakland, Calif.



February 27, 1922

My dear Mrs. Clark &amp; Mabel:

It was very good of you both to join with the Hendersons in sending me such a bunch of kindly greetings and welcome news from the Bay Region, and since I had just returned from the hospital, I was in the right mood to appreciate the various epistles.

Zensaida was in New York at the time your letters came, but has since returned and read them with avidity. We envy you those happy evening reunions at the Hendersons'.

We had one snow-storm of about 6 inches after the big one of more than two feet, and have had one or two flurries since, but now the ground is clear again and we are hoping that spring will come on

smoothly without flare-backs.

This branch of the Merriam family is planning an early arrival at Lagunitas. I expect to go by way of Southern California and work my way north slowly, meeting Mrs. Merriam at Lagunitas about the middle of April. Dorothy and her mother's grandchild are still with us and keep the house more or less bottom side up most of the time. The kid and the grandmother are in the neighborhood of the front steps at the present moment.

We all had our turns at the influenza, but in each case it lasted only a few days, so that we are now as well as usual. I go out for a walk every day, and have been as far as the Museum once. In fact, I am in better shape now than before the operations, and hope to be entirely well in the very near future. Elizabeth and Zensaida join me in love to you both. Very truly yours,

2.

call on you in the not distant future. At

present we cannot say which of us will arrive first. I hope to start for Southern California in about two weeks, and hope to reach Lagunitas about the middle of April. Mrs. M. plans to leave here in time to arrive about the same time I do. But exact dates are as yet uncertain. I will let you know later. Arch did this job for us one year and did it up brown, but we don't want you to do the dirty work before we get there. Either or both of you will be a much appreciated help.

We had another snow-storm yesterday, and this morning the trees are decorated with icicles and the ground covered with snow. We hope this is the last, but March is a mighty uncertain month in Washington. Wish I could see the Manzanita in its glory of flowering--something I have not yet seen.

With love to you both from all of us,

Mrs. Arch M. Gilbert  
Mill Valley, Calif.

March 2, 1922

Dear Angie:

Thanks for the Indian clippings you have sent from time to time. I am not taking the 'Chronicle' this year and therefore had not seen them, and am glad to have them.

Your letter to Mrs. M. came yesterday, and it goes without saying that we are glad to hear from you and to learn of your change of plans.

While the shack you are about to take possession of may not be particularly aristocratic, I am sure it will be mighty snug and comfortable; and our family will be very glad to take turns at the cot you mention from time to time during the season.

So you and Arch are willing to help us put the house in order for the season. This is great. We take you at your word and will



March 7, 1922

American Motors Corporation  
of New Jersey.

Dear Sirs:

In compliance with your three letters of the 2d instant (signed respectively by Carl H. Page, Pres.; C. B. Penney, Sec-Treas; and Robt. Bursner, Chrman), I herewith enclose my check on the National Metropolitan Bank of this City for \$218.25 in payment for additional shares Debenture and Common stock as per terms stated in your letters: \$125 on account of my 625 shares Plainfield Body Corporation, and \$100 on account of Treasury Note for \$500; in all \$225 less 3% for cash, \$218.25.

When will the new Certificates of stock be sent me? I expect to leave for California on or about the middle of the present month and hope to receive them before going.

Very truly yours,

*C. Hart*



March 10, 1922

Mr. C. B. Penney  
Secretary-Treasurer, American Motors Corporation  
Plainfield, New Jersey

Dear Sir:

Thanks for your letter of the 9th inst. acknowledging mine of the 7th.

I note that the certificates of stock will not be ready until after my departure for California. I shall be obliged therefore if you will send them by registered mail addressed to me in care of Metropolitan National Bank, Washington, D. C., where they will be cared for until my return.

Owing to this unavoidable delay, I should be obliged if you will kindly send me a brief memorandum of the amount of Debenture and Common stock due me so that I may file the same with my financial papers before leaving for the West Coast.

Very truly yours,

*C. Hart*





April 1, 1922

Dear Doctor Follis:

Thanks for your very moderate bill, in payment of which my check is herewith enclosed.

You will be glad to know that I am doing well and feel that I shall soon be as well and strong as a man of my years has any right to expect.

Should have been in California before now but for the unexpected arrival of a delegation of California Indians, from whom I am obtaining much good material daily.

With best wishes,

Very truly yours,

Dr Richard H. Follis  
Baltimore, Md.

1919 16th Street

April 2, 1922

Mr Parker  
Thos. J. Fisher & Co.  
738 15th St., Washington

My dear Sir:

Replying to your inquiry concerning the vacant lots belonging to my sister and myself, adjoining my house on Sixteenth Street, would say that I have consulted my sister and we agree that if your clients are willing to pay \$4.50 per square foot and close before my departure for California, we will sell.

This is a big comedown from the price (\$5 per foot) at which we have held the lots.

Very truly yours,

*C. H. Harrison*



XXXXXXXXXX  
1919 - 16 St.

April 17, 1922

C. B. Penney, Secretary  
Stockholders Protective Committee  
American Motors Corporation  
Plainfield, N. J.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of April 11 just received, would state that my address until April 22 will be 1919 - 16 Street, to which address please send my Certificates of Stock. If you cannot get them off in time to reach me on the 22nd, please forward to my address, care of National Metropolitan Bank, Washington, D. C.

When I wrote you last I thought I was on the point of leaving for California, but the unexpected arrival here of a delegation of California Indians has kept me busy at this end of the line and I am still working with them. I expect however to start for my summer home at Lagunitas, Calif. on the 23rd.

In compliance with your request, my Certificates of Stock in the old company are enclosed herewith.

I am not able at present to take advantage of your offer of additional stock.

Very truly yours,

*C. B. Penney*  
I still hold a Treasury Note for \$500 due November 11, 1921, payment of which was defaulted, and for which I filed a claim before leaving California last October. Have not heard anything concerning this of late.

MEMORANDUM

There appears to be a discrepancy between the statement in your letter of the 11th inst., and the accompanying Acceptance Blank. In the letter you state that under the terms of the allotment I am "entitled to a further subscription right to the amount of \$100 (payable in five monthly installments)" in return for which I am to receive "16 shares 8% Debenture Stock; 40 shares Class A Common; 56 shares Class B Common." The Acceptance Blank provides for the payment of \$800 instead of \$100 for the same stock--a seeming discrepancy of \$700.



CERTIFICATES OF STOCK OF AMERICAN MOTORS CORPORATION RETURNED  
BY C. HART MERRIAM, APRIL 17, 1922

Invoice of Certificates of Stock returned (enclosed herewith,  
sent by registered mail)

AMERICAN MOTORS CORPORATION

Nos.	Common	Amount	
422		25	
780		75	
2127		100	
2272		100	
2854		50	
3088		100	
3257		60	
6611		25	535 Common

Nos.	Preferred	Amount	
390		25	
748		75	
2089		100	
2234		100	
2925		100	
3026		60	
6362		25	485 Preferred

AMCO

33	Common	100	
33	Preferred	100	200

PLAINFIELD BODY CORPORATION

64	Preferred	100	
161	Preferred	25	125 Preferred

*C. Hart Merriam*



ESTATE OF CAROLINE H. MERRIAM, SETTLEMENT AMONG HEIRS, JULY 1918

Mrs. Caroline Hart Merriam died in 1893. Her heirs were her three children: C. Collins Merriam, C. Hart Merriam, and Florence Merriam, now Mrs. Florence Merriam Bailey.

Mrs. Caroline Hart Merriam left 3 parcels of real estate, inherited by the 3 children. In order to acquire individual instead of joint holdings, the heirs agreed upon the following values:

PROPERTY:

1. Collins Farm, Collinsville, N. Y. (Lewis Co.)  
(Dairy farm of about 185 acres with buildings.)
2. Two lots on E. side of 16th St., Washington, D.C.  
between T and Caroline Sts., (Sq. 190) 3600 sq. ft.
3. One lot on Ferry St., Buffalo, N. Y. (166½ ft. front)

APPROXIMATE VALUES:

Collins Farm		
Washington Lots	\$12,500	\$18,000
Buffalo Lot	5,500	
Combined value of Washington and Buffalo lots		\$18,000

PROPOSITION FOR SETTLEMENT:

C. C. Merriam to acquire Collins Farm in exchange for his one-third interest in Washington and Buffalo lots (\$6,000) plus first mortgage for \$6,000 at 5%.

Florence Merriam Bailey and C. Hart Merriam to acquire individual holdings as follows:

Florence Merriam Bailey to take the Collins Farm mortgage and one of the Washington lots.

C. Hart Merriam to take the other Washington lot, the Buffalo lot and \$300.00 in cash.

The lot to be deeded to Florence Merriam Bailey may be thus described: the south 4½ feet of lot 47 and the whole of lot 46, Dillon B. Groff's subdivision of Sq. 190. The lot to be deeded to C. Hart Merriam: the south 12 feet of lot 49 and the north 10½ feet of lot 48, Dillon B. Groff's subdivision of Sq. 190. Each lot thus described will have a frontage of 22½ feet on 16th Street, by a depth of 80 feet to alley.

XXXXXXXXXXXX  
1919 - 16 St.

April 21, 1922

Collector of Taxes  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Some time ago I wrote you, enclosing postage, for tax bills on my property, corner 16th and Caroline Streets, Square 190, lots 804 and 805. This morning I received from your office the bill for lot 804 but not the bill for 805.

I shall be obliged if you will kindly send the latter as early as possible, as I am leaving for California in a few days and am anxious to pay taxes before going.

Very truly yours,

*C. Hart Merriam*



XXXXXX  
1919 - 16 St.

May 1, 1922

Mr. George W. White  
President, National Metropolitan Bank  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. White:

Herewith I am enclosing check for five thousand dollars (\$5000) for the purchase of same amount of First Mortgage 6 percent notes payable in 3 years, on the Apartment House property you mentioned in our conversation this morning.

Thanking you for your kind attention in the matter,

Very truly yours,

C. Hartman

XXXXXXXXXX  
1919 - 16 St.

May 1, 1922

Mr. John D. Sherman Jr.  
Mount Vernon, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Sherman:

There is nothing like time to clear up mysteries. Yesterday in looking for an album of pictures to show to some Indians, I opened a long, flattish box and to my amazement found it to contain the long-looked-for paper by Woods on the 'Fundus Oculi.' It seems my memory had been badly at fault, as I had pictured it as a thin brochure, whereas it is a good sized book. I am sending it to you by Express herewith in accordance with my promise.

You will be surprised to find that I am still in Washington. The reason is that on returning from the hospital I was confronted by a delegation of California Indians representing 9 different tribes. I began work with them at once, expecting to finish in about a week, but they have been obliged to stay here and have proved so fruitful that I am only now about done working with them, so that it will be at least a week before I will be able to get off for Lagunitas.

Very truly yours,

*E. M. H. H. H.*



May 1, 1922

Mr. W. W. Burress  
Goldenville  
Caroline County, Va.

Dear Sir:

At the request of Mrs. Florence Johnson of this city, I am enclosing herewith 2 certified checks on the National Metropolitan Bank of Washington: One for Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250), the other for Sixty-five Dollars (\$65), in all Three Hundred Fifteen Dollars (\$315); the same to be applied in payment for the farm she purchased from you in Caroline County, Virginia.

Very truly yours,

*C. Hart Merriam*

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1919 - 16 St.  
Washington, D. C. May 22, 1922

Mr. Pompeo Martinelli  
Lagunitas, Calif.

Dear Mr. Martinelli:

As usual I have been delayed long beyond the time when I expected to start. However, we are now about ready to go and expect to leave here in time to reach Lagunitas on Monday, the 29th.

Trusting you and your family are well, and with best regards to you all,

Very truly yours,

*E. J. Martinelli*

mdj



Washington, D. C. May 22, 1922

Dear Zenaida:

Your letter of the 16th conveyed the looked-for information about the railroad trip to California. The figures you cite show that the most economical ticket is the summer round trip, returning via D. C., for \$147.66; sleeper \$33.76 extra; meals \$15.58; baggage and porter \$3.00, in round numbers a couple of hundred. I am therefore enclosing check for \$220, allowing a little margin for possible accident or delay.

Yesterday was a wonderful day for me. I cleaned up about the last batch of Indian material and finished my article for Outdoor Life on the Present Distribution of Grizzly Bears of the United States. Also finished a map to go with the article.

Having accomplished so much I felt entitled to the first vacation I have had in many a long day, so closed shop in the afternoon and took your mother and Marian Baker to see the Abbott Thayer collection of paintings in the Corcoran Gallery, and thence to the National Museum to take a look at the Ward collection of sculptures of African natives--a very remarkable exhibit in view of which I cannot help wishing that he had lived long enough to do a lot of similar work for our American Indians.

I expect to finish my maps of California tribes today or tomorrow and then shall select and pack the vocabularies and other necessary material. Hope I won't forget anything.

We should be ready to start on Thursday, the 25th, but may possibly wait another day in order to begin travel on Friday--the best day of the week for that purpose.

Miss Zenaida Merriam

2

Tell Beth that I shall miss her sadly at Lagunitas and hope that she will learn to eat all sorts of things so that next year she can go with us on our field trips.

With love to you all,

*Saddy -*  
To Zenaida  
with Dorothy at  
Cambridge, Mass.

H-  
not

Washington, May 24, 1922

Dear Julia:

At last we are packing our trunk for California and have secured our tickets, leaving here on Friday, the 26th.

Zenaida is still with Dorothy at Cambridge and will start in four or five days, arriving at Lagunitas in time to join us on our first field trip.

Enclosed is your June coupon with the attached slip.

It is pretty hot here now, and we shall be glad to reach Lagunitas.

With love from us both,

As ever,

Mrs. C. L. Merriam  
1008 Washington Street  
Watertown, New York



Lagunitas, Calif.  
June 22, 1922

Dear Arch:

Our long exploited trip to the mountains of the upper Mad and Van Duzen river country is on the point of starting--wish you and Angie were to be with us.

Again I am constrained (is this the proper word?) to ask you to repeat the favor you did me a year ago by getting Bond values as of July 1. Don't waste a lot of time on the job but put down what you conveniently can and let the rest go. Of course there are a number that have had no recent sales, so the last recorded will do.

Our folks certainly were tickled to run across you two the other night. Such late hours do not deserve such compensation!

But the old man did enjoy that Sunday afternoon dinner on the south slope of Tamalpais, and also enjoyed meeting "THE SISTERS". How in the world Miss Dorothea ever managed to escape is more than I can comprehend.

Can't say when we will be back but would guess in a couple of weeks. Hope the Gilberts will be ready with their new car for the next.

As ever,

July 10, 1922

Mr Geo. W. White, President  
Nat. Metropolitan Bank  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr White:

On returning from an auto trip of 850 miles in the mountains of northwestern California--part of it over new-cut roads 6 to 8 ft wide up and down steep mountain sides--I find your letter of June 21, notifying me of the receipt of two letters addressed to me, from the American Motors Corporation.

I shall be obliged if you will kindly hold the registered one until my return, and forward the ordinary letter to me here at Lagunitas, California.

Thanking you for your trouble in the matter, and with best wishes,

Very truly yours,  
*Robert L. ...*



Lagunitas, Calif.  
Aug. 25, 1922

Gray & Carpenter  
Union Indemnity Exchg.  
Petaluma, Calif.

Dear Sirs:

If you were walking up a mountain trail whistling and making plenty of noise, and suddenly a bull came in sight running toward you down the same trail, and you saw each other and you tried to turn out to let him pass, but he was excited and came right on without slacking, and before you could get quite clear of the trail he butted you in the side, breaking some of your ribs and at the same time hurting his horn; and later the owner of the bull came, while you were still in the hospital, and demanded damages for injuring the tip of his bulls horn! WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?

This is precisely what happened when your client butted into my car on a temporary detour just north of Willits on August 16 last. I was going slowly up grade, he coming down. I was tooting my horn; he heard it but made no reply. The detour was narrow but had a turnout just at that point. When I saw his car rounding the curve ahead I instantly turned up on this turnout to get out of his way, and would have cleared the road if he had given me a couple of seconds more--but he didn't. Whether he forgot his brakes or they wouldn't work, I don't know, but instead of stopping or slacking up he came right on and struck the hinder part of my car before I could get clear of the road. He hit the arch of the left rear fender and hit so hard that he not only smashed the fender but also jammed in the side of the body.

On returning, I took the car to Duffy Brothers, San Rafael, and they put on a new fender and did what they could to straighten the side of the body. WHO WAS AT FAULT? *E. H. H. H. H.*



October 13, 1922.

Mr. George W. White,  
President National Metropolitan Bank,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. White:

Replying to your letter of September 19,  
forwarded from Washington, would say that I expect  
to return to Washington the end of the present  
month and will then turn over to you, for  
redemption, my Swift & Company notes, which you  
kindly offered to attend to for me. They are  
now in my safe deposit box in your bank.

Very truly yours,

*C. Hart Hurian*

October 13, 1922.

Dome Oil Company,  
Tacoma Park, D. C.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with your letter of  
September 29, forwarded from Washington,  
I am enclosing herewith an order for 1050  
gallons of DOME NOKOL FUEL, to be delivered as  
required at 1919 Sixteenth St., Washington,  
during the coming Fall and Winter, beginning  
November 2; and am enclosing herewith in pay-  
ment my check for \$126.00.

I am now in California but expect to  
arrive in Washington not later than November 1.

Very truly yours,

*C. Hart Hurian*



November 6, 1922

Mr. Carl H. Page, President  
American Motors Corporation  
Plainfield, N.J.

Dear Sir: On August 1st I sent you in compliance with your request; my check for \$167, as additional subscription to stock of the company, in accordance with your letter dated July 24 and previous dates. The receipt of this amount was acknowledged by your Assistant Treasurer under date of August 8, but I have not yet received the stock in question. Will you kindly have it forwarded at your earliest convenience?

I am considering the purchase of one of the new series American Six five passenger touring cars and shall be glad to know the exact price I shall have to pay for same at the factory at Plainfield.

I shall be obliged also if you will send me any additional data you may have published concerning the New Series. I have no information as to whose make of motor, carburetor, ignition and other standard parts<sup>are</sup> used, all of which I would like to know before deciding as to the purchase.

Very truly yours,

C. H. *Amurian*

November 15, 1922

Mr. Carl H. Page  
President American Motors Corporation  
Plainfield, New Jersey

My dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of the 10th inst:

I am obliged for the information you have furnished.

I now plan to reach Plainfield fairly early on Saturday morning unless prevented by rain. If it rains Friday night I will postpone leaving here until Sunday night, in which case I would reach Plainfield Monday morning -- unless the rains should continue, as I do not care to drive back to Washington in the rain.

I expect to purchase one of your new 5-passenger touring cars, and I should like to see both colors -- black and blue -- before I decide.

Very truly yours,

*C. H. Page*



November 17, 1922

Mr. Carl H. Page  
President American Motors Corporation  
Plainfield, New Jersey

My dear Mr. Page:

Thanks for your interesting letter  
just received.

In view of your impending absence, I will act on  
your suggestion and defer my visit to Plainfield  
until Tuesday, November 21, and will plan to arrive  
rather early in the morning.

With best wishes

Very truly yours

*Robert H. Munroe*

Nov. 24, 1922

Mr Carl H. Page  
President, American Motors  
Plainfield, New Jersey

Dear Mr Page:

On the way home with the car all went well till suddenly on a smooth road came a great crash and jar. I was reasonably sure that two things had happened; I thought a gear had broken in the transmission and that the reaction had broken a spring.

Went to a road garage and found the enclosed nut in the transmission; also found the heavy hanger plate under the right rear spring split and spreading. The garage mechanic drilled an iron plate and fixed it under the broken one, holding the spring in place so that I reached home safely.

The steering wheel is very stiff, and needs a lot of turning to get around a corner without swinging out too far. Otherwise the car runs beautifully and I look forward to much satisfaction in driving it.

I got my 1923 license plates today and am returning the ones you lent me, by parcels post.

With kind regards to Major Bell, Mr Hansl, Mr Harding and yourself, and with best wishes,

Very truly yours,

*C. H. Page*



November 28, 1922

Dr. W.B. Stephens  
Alameda, California

Dear Dr. Stephens:

Ever since our return I have been intending to write you, but pressure of various matters has prevented.

You will be interested to know that last week I went to Plainfield, N.J. where I purchased the long-awaited American Six and drove it back home about 270 miles. It is the new model and to my eye presents a very attractive appearance. The radiator and hood are high, somewhat resembling those of the Marmon. The equipment for the price, \$1785 strikes me as decidedly unusual and you may be interested to glance over it.

Herschell-Spillman Motor, 66 HP, bore 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ , stroke 5.  
Crank case drained by valve within hood, so there is no excuse for getting under the car.  
Gray & Davis starting and lighting.  
Stromburg new model carburetor.  
Borg & Beck clutch  
Willard battery  
Kellogg tire pump operated from transmission and started from driver's seat.  
Stewart Vacuum gas feed.  
Dash 8-day clock  
Inside rear view mirror (on top windshield) ~~like yours~~.  
Windshield wiper  
Cowl ventilator  
Boyer motor meter.  
Attwater-Kent Ignition  
Lights: Legal headlights, barrel type, focusing, dimming lights; hood and parking and rear lamps; cowl and dash lamps; inside hood lamp; Beckley-Ralston rear stoplight, operated by service brake; tonneau light with extension cord; trouble light.

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Side curtains opening with all 4 doors.  
Alemite system throughout.  
Non-skid cord tires all round (33 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ ).  
Handy tools in lock door pocket.  
Heavy tools under front seat.  
Leather cushions with Marshall springs.  
Running boards and fenders all steel and unit with frame, which is deep (8 ins.) hydraulic pressed, eliminating friction and rattle.  
Springs extra long and broad (396 square inches more than usual in cars of same approximate size and weight).  
Steering post head and spark and gas levers radically new design, same as in latest Cadillac model.  
Wheel base 127 in. Weight 3150 lbs.

The weather was very cold, with flurries of snow, and I was badly chilled during the two days drive home, but I escaped a cold and am now all right again.

The apartment next door is about completed on the outside but will not be ready for occupancy before the end of the year. The concrete, plaster, and broken bricks and other debris on our steps and roof are dreadful to behold, but doubtless will be cleaned away in time.

Nelson came back a short time ago with a grip cold and threatened pneumonia and is now in hospital here. I left his bedside a half-hour ago and am glad to be able to say that he is much better.

Harry Allen has been sending me a fine lot of Indian clippings, so I've been able to keep posted as to the recent convention doings. Have also had letters from some of the Indians.

Elizabeth and Zensida are well and are experimenting with a colored girl and some new clothes. They join me in love to you all.

As ever yours,

*C. Hart Merriam*



Dec. 8, 1922

Mr Carl H. Page, President  
American Motors Corporation  
Plainfield, New Jersey.

My dear Mr Page:

You asked me to write you how I like the car. I have now driven it 400 miles only, not far enough to show how she will travel when worn in. She turns corners like a contrary bull -- quite the opposite of the much advertised quality of the former "Balanced Six". And her engine makes a distressing noise. Apart from these drawbacks she behaves well.

I have never driven a car whose steering wheel had to be turned so far in order to make a turn--a decided disadvantage.

The gears shift easily and the car as a whole handles agreeably so it is a pleasure to drive--except around square turns.

She is a distinguished looking car, dignified and handsome, and I have noticed that many persons turn to look at her.

In accordance with your wish I have spoken to the manager of the American Motors Service Company about the possibility of handling the car here in Washington. He says they cannot afford to take the agency of any car, as so doing would prejudice many customers. They have already declined several.

With best wishes,

Very truly yours,

C. Hart



December 11, 1922

Mr. Carl H. Page, President  
American Motors Corporation  
Plainfield, N.J.

My dear Mr. Page:

Since learning of the proposed merger of American Motors with the Bessemer Motor Truck Company of Philadelphia, I have made inquiries concerning the affairs of the latter company, with a result that is not altogether reassuring. You know, of course, that Mr. Lewis resigned, to take effect November 1 last, and that E.J. Pithian was elected President in his place.

The company was incorporated under the laws of Pennsylvania September 20, 1911, and re-incorporated under the laws of Delaware, April 24, 1917 — the re-financing done by the Jester Co. of New York. The company succeeded to the plant and business of the Hercules Specialty Co. The authorized capital is said to be two million, consisting of one million Common and one million Preferred. Of the Preferred (par value \$100) \$633,800 have been issued. It is said also that of the Common Class B (par value \$10) \$43,790 is outstanding.

In April, 1922, the company took over the Bessemer Truck Sales Company of New Haven.

It is said that the Philadelphia property, purchased in 1920 for \$163,000, is still mortgaged for \$150,000, and that this property has never been operated, a heavy carrying charge not offset

Mr. W.H. Page - 2

as a revenue producer. Another report states that \$200,000 has been expended on the Philadelphia property.

No recent financial statements have been obtained, but the balance sheet of December 31, 1920 claims assets of \$2,240,916, including some rather remarkable items, namely, merchandise inventory, \$568,866; manufacturing plants, \$473,844; machinery and equipment, \$35,290; "patterns, jigs, drawings, patents and trade name", \$1,035,056!!, aggregating an enormous valuation on paper, with little behind it in the way of convertible assets. In the same statement the liabilities are reckoned at \$371,605. Eliminating intangibles and deterioration, the present assets have been estimated at from \$300,000 to \$500,000.

Volume of business small, sales c.o.d. and reported slow pay (some debts past due and some paid by note).

On the other hand, the officers are said to be men in good standing and those connected are said to be well regarded.

You may be familiar with all these facts, but they strike me as rather staggering, in view of the contemplated merger.

Very truly yours,

C. H. Page



Dec. 12, 1922

Dear Julia:

Pardon delay in forwarding enclosed coupon; Have'nt had time before to go to the Bank vault to get it.

We came home nearly six weeks ago and have had the usual siege with plumbers and other workmen. Clint stopped to see Florence and Vernon on his way back this morning and I had a little visit with him for first time since--I can't remember when. He is looking fairly well.

At last, a cold spell has hit us and we are hoping it will peter out soon. Washington is no place for Lewis County weather.

We have had a NoKol heater installed in the old furnace and if the oil do'nt give out it will be a great blessing, as it is no trouble at all.

Elizabeth and Zensida are well as usual and more busy with all sorts of womanly doings--both out now.

How are you these days? Into everything as usual I presume, and just as young as usual!

Marian Baker is expecting Barbara soon for Xmas. I have not yet tried to find new office quarters for the reason that rents are still too high, but so many new apartments are going up now that prices are likely to come down before spring.

With much love,

December 14, 1922

Mr. Gilbert Grosvenor, President  
National Geographic Society  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Grosvenor:

At the close of the meeting yesterday you were good enough to say that five copies of KATMAI'S SMOKES had been placed at the disposal of each member of the Board and that the Society would forward them to addresses supplied.

In accordance with this generous offer, I shall be greatly obliged if you will kindly send the copies allotted to me to the following addresses:

Dr. Sterling Bunnell  
Physicians' Building, Sutter Street  
San Francisco, Calif.

Dr. W.B. Stephens  
1250 Bay Street, Alameda, Calif.

Mr. Lyman Merriam  
Lyons Falls, Lewis Co., New York

Mr. Henry D. Abbot  
3 Chauncy Terrace, Cambridge 38, Mass.

Mr. H.S. Allen  
955 Clayton Street,  
San Francisco, Calif.

Very truly yours,



Dec. 16, 1922

Mr R. D. Mock, Sec'y  
Consolidation Committee  
American & Bessemer Motors  
Plainfield, New Jersey

Dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of the 13th instant concerning proposed consolidation of the American Motors Corporation with the Bessemer Truck Co., would say that you have not given sufficient information to enable me to vote intelligently, and I shall be obliged if you will answer the following questions:

1. Why not enlighten the stockholders as to the Assets and Liabilities of the Bessemer Company? I for one would appreciate a frank and def-statement under this head.
2. How can a company have "an earning and dividend-paying record running back over a long period of years", as stated in your letter, when said company is reported slow in payment to creditors, as substituting in some cases notes for cash, and when carrying a very heavy mortgage?
3. What is to be the fate of stockholders of American Motors who for years have strained their financial resources to meet continued demands for more funds until they are not able to carry the additional burden of 20% of their present holdings? What is to become of our stock and what is to be our status if the proposed merger takes place?

Awaiting your reply,  
Very truly yours,

*C. Hart Newman*

See also  
ff. 177-178

Dec. 18, 1922

Automobile License Dept.  
Municipal Building, D.C.

In purchasing my car license plates on November 24 I think I gave the horsepower of my American-6 car as 24.9 I have just learned that it is 29.6

If you will kindly make the correction and notify me of the additional amount due, I will remit by return mail.

Regretting to put you to this trouble,

Respectfully,

C. Hartman



December 20, 1922

Mr. P. Martinelli  
Lagunitas, California

Dear Mr. Martinelli:

Thanks for your letter of the 11th inst. just received. We are all glad to know that the fruit trees and berries arrived in good condition and that you planted them right away. We are glad also that you have burned the brush and that you put a bowl to catch the leak behind the chimney.

We have had a little snow — about an inch — which lasted only a couple of days; but it is still decidedly cold.

Please congratulate your daughter for us on the arrival of her little baby boy, and give our best regards to all of your family.

With best wishes,

Very truly yours,

*C. West*

P.S. If you will send your bill I will remit at once.

Dec. 20, 1922

Building Inspector  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

During the summer an Apartment house has been erected by  
Liebman & Kaufman alongside my dwelling at 1919 Sixteenth Street.

Numerous damages have been done to my property--such as  
broken skylights, broken slates and other injuries to the roof,  
and so on, not to mention minor damages.

I have spoken several times to the foreman, whose name I  
am told is Foster, but he does nothing.

What am I to do about it?

Very truly yours,

*C. Hart Merriam*



Dec. 26, 1922

Chas. R. Biddle & Co.  
1418 Walnut Street  
Philadelphia, Penn.

Dear Sirs:

On November 8th one of your representatives, named Ehrenberg, called on me and stated that you had underwritten the remaining unsold shares of the American Motors Corporation, and that Mr Page President of Am. Motors, wishing to give old stockholders a chance to reimburse themselves for losses resulting from the Receivership had arranged with Biddle & Co. so that if they would purchase immediately additional shares in "Unit" lots as indicated by him, you would sell the same "in a few days" at a very material profit to shareholders.

Acting on his advice, I gave him \$6000 in Liberty Bonds for 30 Units, and at the same time signed a sale order filled in by him on one of your printed blanks, to sell 25 of the 30 Units at the price he named--250 per Unit. He laid special emphasis on the clause stating that this sale order was irrevocable.

On November 24 I recd. the units purchased, but up to the present time have not heard from you in regard to the sale.

It now looks very much as if the \$6000 I gave him was obtained by false representations.

Is it likely that you can sell this stock in the near future? If not, could you do so if I were to raise the 20% required to convert my holdings into those of the proposed consolidated Bessemer-American?

Very truly yours,

*C. R. Biddle*

December 30, 1922

Egbert Bagg & Co.  
191 Genesee Street  
Utica, New York

Dear Sirs:

The insurance on my household effects in my dwelling, 1919 Sixteenth Street, Washington, expires on January 18. I shall be obliged if you will renew for a period of 3 years as usual.

A few changes are now necessary. Nearly two years ago I gave up my office apartment at the Northumberland and moved into my own house, in consequence of which my entire collection of Indian baskets is now at 1919 Sixteenth Street, so that all reference to the Northumberland should be cut out.

In the clause covering scientific specimens, strike out the word 'skulls' (now transferred to the National Museum) and replace by the words 'Navaho Indian blankets and other ethnological specimens'.

My house has always stood alone, but during the past summer a large apartment house has been built up against it on the south side.

Last month I installed an oil burner called 'Nokol' in my furnace, with a 50- gallon tank in the basement a little over 15 feet distant from the furnace. The fuel is called 'Dome' oil.

Very truly yours,

*C. Hart Hurian*



Jan. 5, 1923

Chas. R. Biddle & Co.  
1418 Walnut St.  
Philadelphia, Penn.

Dear Sirs:

Thanks for yours of the 2d instant, in reply to my inquiry concerning stock of American Motors Corporation.

You advise me to hold my stock until after the completion of the merger between the Bessemer Motor Truck Company and the American Motors Corporation.

I value your advice, but am not clear as to whether you mean to hold the stock as it stands, or to raise the necessary 20% additional to convert into stock of the new company. Will you kindly enlighten me on this point and oblige.

Very truly yours,

*C. R. Biddle*

January 11, 1923.

Mr. P. Martinelli,  
Lagunitas, Calif.

Dear Mr. Martinelli:

Thanks for your last letter, which I thought I had answered on January 2nd, but find that I did not send it although I made out your check for \$8.00 in accordance with your bill, and am enclosing same herewith.

We are very glad to know that you burned the brush and planted the young fruit trees in Zenaida's orchard.

We are hoping to go to Lagunitas very early this spring.

With best wishes to all,

Very truly yours,

*C. M. Martinelli*



Jan. 12, 1923

American Motors Corporation  
Plainfield, New Jersey

I have recieved several shocks of late, not least of which is the information that the man Ehrenberg who by false representations obtained Six thousand dollars from me, was after all employed by you and not by Biddle.

And now, after putting into the Company far more than I can afford, I am practically forced to sell enough additional property to raise nearly \$1400 more.

Notwithstanding all this, I still have faith in the company and am satisfied that the American Six is a good car easily worth the price.

If you succeed in merging with the Bessemer Truck, I hope you will not change the radiator emblem for to my eye it is one of the most attractive in all America.

*C. Hart Hurian*

Jan. 24, 1923

Mr Robert Bursner, Chairman  
Consolidation Committee  
Bessemer & American Motors Cos.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with your notification of the 20th instant  
I am enclosing herewith my check for \$1334.51 in payt of "sub-  
scription" for the new Bessemer-American combination.

It is of course most gratifying to learn of the bettered  
prospects of the merged companies, and I most earnestly hope  
that this is the beginning of a long period of success.

Very truly yours,

*C. Hart Merriam*

Mr Robert Bursner  
Plainfield, New Jersey



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February 5, 1923.

Mr. George W. White  
President, National Metropolitan Bank  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. White:

In accordance with our conversation  
this morning, I am handing you herewith my check  
for \$1000, for which you kindly offered to secure  
for me a mortgage of the same amount at  $6\frac{1}{2}\%$ .

Thanking you for your kind services  
in the matter,

Very truly yours,  
*C. H. H. H.*

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February 5, 1923.

Consolidation Committee  
Bessemer Motor Truck Company  
Plainfield, New Jersey

Dear Sirs:

In accordance with your letter of January 29 I am  
enclosing herewith by registered mail my certificates of stock  
in American Motors Corporation of New Jersey as follows:

Class A - - - - 317 shares

Class B - - - -  $221\frac{2}{5}$  "

Debenture Stock - -  $153\frac{2}{5}$  shares (details  
as per list below)

to be exchanged for equivalent stock in the new Bessemer  
American Corporation, as per your previous letters.

Please send to me by registered mail (1919-16th  
Street) exchange certificates, along with the additional ones  
to which I am entitled by reason of my recent subscription  
of \$1,361.75, as per your several letters and notices. It  
might save trouble in unnecessary figuring if these fractional  
shares were evened up.

Yours very truly,  
*C. H. H. H.*

Class A - #1186 - 17 sh.  
" " - 1241 - 300 "  
" B - 506 - 129 "  
" " - 507 -  $26\frac{4}{5}$  sh.  
" " - 508 -  $27\frac{3}{5}$  "  
" " - 509 - 21 sh.  
" " - 2634 - 17 "  
D - 506 -  $20\frac{2}{5}$  sh  
" " - 507 - 4 sh.  
" " - 509 - 4 "  
" " - 2283 - 120 "

D 508 5 share



February 6, 1923

Mutual Service Bureau  
1411 New York Avenue  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sirs:

Before putting in your Nokol heater in my house, 1919-16th Street, you submitted a statement as to the relative quantities of oil - fuel and coal to keep a house at a reasonable temperature. In actual use however the heater does not act as represented; either the figures submitted were grossly in error or the adjustment of the machine is very wrong. For instance, the consumption of oil and cost per day have run as follows: November, 315 gallons, \$1.40 per day; December, 455 gallons, \$1.82 per day; January, 580 gallons, \$2.25 per day; in other words my January bill for oil was \$70.00, which is something appalling for a man in moderate circumstances.

From a business standpoint, from your own point of view, this sort of thing is absolutely destructive, as it is killing the goose that lays the golden egg. You cannot afford to run the cost of operation up to such a figure that your customers will be obliged to take out the machines and go back to coal.

Several times in response to telephone calls you have sent up someone to change the adjustment of the burner. I shall be obliged if you will do this again and if possible send a man who will remedy the present trouble.

We have many inquiries as to the behaviour of the Nokol apparatus, which I regret to say has already acquired a very black eye.

Very truly yours,  
*Robert H. H. H.*



February 7, 1923.

My dear Collins:

Your letter of the 6th came a few minutes ago and I hasten to reply to that part of it in which you inquire about operations for hernia.

You are entirely right in your recollection of the two operations on me: the first, the one done here in Washington, was under local anesthetic only; the one at Johns Hopkins a year ago was under ether.

The agony of the first operation was beyond words; I would almost rather die than go through such a thing again. The shock was tremendous and lasted a week or more.

The second operation, I knew nothing of and came out in good shape the same afternoon.

While it is true that a local anesthetic deadens the skin and, to a certain extent, the superficial tissues, it has practically no effect at all on the peritoneum, omentum, and other deep tissues.

I never tried to wear a truss, having little faith in them; and in your present condition I should

-2-

deem one out of the question, but I did have a good deal of temporary relief from a good abdominal bandage which furnished a general support. I had three or four of these of different models but never could wear the same one more than two or three days without getting so sore that I changed to another, which pressed a little differently.

If I remember correctly your hernia is on one side only, which means a relatively quick operation with correspondingly little after effects from the anesthetic.

Its a pity we old folks relax so that we have to submit to such inconveniences, but the sooner they are over the better, and for my part I feel that I am still good for some years of active field work, although a year or two ago I was decidedly down in the mouth as to the outlook.

Elizabeth and Zenaida are both out at lunch and I am answering this without waiting in order that you may get it as soon as possible.

*Isam, off*  
*Hunt*



February 9, 1923.

My dear Miss Stearns:

The recent snowstorm brought a small and select bird wave from Southern California where they found the climate too enervating and were searching for the cool breezes of the North. One of these little birds, becoming fatigued, dropped in at our house and finding that we were somewhat acquainted in the Golden West ventured to remark that a dear friend in Los Angeles was about to undergo the tribulations of a birthday.

This being the case, please accept the hearty congratulations and best wishes of the Hart Merriam family, and also kindly remember that we still hope to live long enough to see you again either at Lagunitas or Los Angeles or both.

With love from us all,

Very truly yours,

C. Hart Merriam

Miss Mary Stearns  
1021 South Union Ave.  
Los Angeles, Calif.



February 17, 1923.

Dear Coll:

Flo's letter just received. It is glorious news to know that the war is over and all is well.

You will be pretty sore for a while and are likely to feel as if the front part of your body was made of a thick layer of putty. You will also be opposed to swift movements of any kind and would not enjoy bouncing the baby up and down for a few weeks yet!

What a glorious thing ether is, so that a poor devil may be cut up and not know anything about it until the show is over.

They treated you better than they did me in the grub line; they didn't give me any soup or even so much as a cup of coffee until the second day after the operation, and I had to read the Riot Act to them in order to get my cup of coffee by or before 7:30 in the morning. They didn't want to bring it until they brought my breakfast at 8, but I told them that this was not an arguable proposition, that I had to have the coffee not later than 7:30 and it was up to them to see that it was delivered promptly and of proper strength. After that I was willing to wait half an hour for breakfast.

Then the diet nurse always brought along a list of things she wanted me to check off for each meal, but I

C. M. #2

systematically and invariably declined, telling her she could bring me anything she darn pleased and if I didn't like it I wouldn't eat it. This saved a lot of bother and beforehand worry.

You are lucky to have such a large slice of your dear family near at hand so they can be with you every day. This was a luxury I could'nt afford when at Baltimore, so ~~that~~ it seemed mighty good to have one or other of them show up a couple of times a week.

Last evening Elizabeth took the Federal Express for Boston, where Dorothy was to meet her and take her to 3 Chauncey Place in her Buick -- provided the snow was not too deep for auto navigation. Those grandchildren have been pulling pretty hard all winter so I knew it was only a matter of time before grandma would have to pull stakes. And I admit myself that I'd give a lot of old boots to have Beth here for a few weeks, as she was last winter. She is a most entertaining and lovable kidling. And we would like to have her at Lagunitas.

You have a lot of kids of assorted sizes and ages at the Falls and Watertown, all of whom have either arrived or grown up since I last saw them, so that I would not know one of the whole gang by sight. This is a genuine sadness.

There is one good thing about this hospital business for a serious operation: our women folks don't have to overburden their memories to keep telling us to lie still for the first few days.



eer

G. M. #3

Sleep all you can, as there is nothing like it to restore one's system after a shock or strain. It may be a little monotonous but that's part of the picnic.

With love to you all and thanks to Flo for her good letter giving the news that we have been so anxiously looking for.

*Robert*



February 21, 1923.

Nokol Heater Company  
Mutual Service Bureau  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sirs:

Two weeks ago I notified you in writing of the failure of your heater to heat my house and of the enormous expense I have been put to for fuel oil. Since then two or three of your men have been here but nothing whatever has been done to improve conditions.

The latter part of last week one of your men who looked into the furnace told me that the coating of soot was so thick that the furnace was probably not giving out more than half the heat it should for the oil consumed. He said he would bring a man up the first of the week to thoroughly clean the furnace and would then adjust the furnace so that the sooting would not occur again. This however he has not done and we are still suffering.

I shall be obliged if you will kindly give the matter your immediate attention and let me know whether or not you will be able to heat the house at anything like the cost you originally stated.

Very truly yours,



February 21, 1923.

Hon. John P. Healy  
Building Inspector  
Washington, D.C.

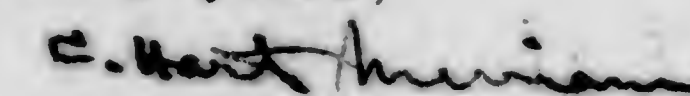
Dear Sir:

Just two months ago I wrote you concerning the failure of the builders of the apartment next door to repair the injuries they have done to my roof, chimney, garage, sky-lights, and other parts of the house, and you were kind enough to send an inspector to examine the premises, and also later to interview the owners who, I think you told me, promised to attend to the matter at once.

But up to the present time nothing whatever has been done and we remain victims of a gross imposition.

Unless your Department is able to help me out in the matter I shall be obliged to put the case at once in the hands of a lawyer with instructions to sue for heavy damages.

Very truly yours,





February 26, 1923

My dear Coll:

It certainly was a good sight for sore eyes to see your letter of the 24th instant in your own handwriting. This shows better than words that you have really won out and will soon be on your feet again. I know just how tedious it has been and how much you have had to suffer, but from now on you will have relatively little trouble. At the same time I don't want to be misunderstood as encouraging the belief that you will feel like joining an athletic club or that you will no longer have feelings inside you. And though you may not be sure that you feel better from day to day, you will feel sure from month to month, and this is about all one has a right to expect.

You have been lucky to have Julia to read aloud to you. She is a splendid reader--the best I think I have ever listened to.

Sorry to hear the bad news of Mary Geyer but glad that she is in such good hands as at the Roosevelt Hospital, and trust she will come out in good shape in a few days.

Glad the New York Legislature has at last waked up to the necessity for an open season on Beaver and trust the bill may pass by an overwhelming majority. Vernon Bailey

C. M. #2.

says that an open season will solve the problem, for the reason that the pelts are so valuable that competent trappers will go in and catch the brutes if only they are permitted to do so legally.

Glad you had a little visit from Lyman. Hope his proboscis is all right now.

We have been having a rainy spell for the past couple of days but are thankful that it has not been snow.

Elizabeth is still enjoying the grandchildren and there is no telling when she will come home. Zenaida however is a pretty good housekeeper so I am in no immediate danger of starvation.

With love to you all, including of course Julia as well as Flo, and Augusta with her dear children,

*Arthur*  
*Hall*



Hon. John P. Healy  
Building Inspector  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Since writing you on February 21 concerning the continued neglect of the builders of the apartment #1915-16th St. adjoining my house, to repair various damages, I have had a call from the architects and one of the owners. They said they would repair the roof and other damages, but thus far have continued to do nothing except that I have been informed by Daly & Hopper, roofers, that they had been instructed to repair the roof.

But the architects stated that it was not their duty to carry up the chimney as it was not built on the party wall. I told them that this must be a matter of law or building regulation and therefore it was not worth while for us to discuss it. I therefore wish to ask you whether or not it is the business of the apartment to repair the damage done to the top of my furnace chimney and to carry it up so that it will draft.

As a matter of fact the back part and about six inches of the sides of the chimney in question are actually encased in the new apartment wall, which at the base of the chimney extends beyond it (toward my house) at least six or seven inches.

March 7, 1923

J. P. H.--#2.

The first inspector you sent here noticed this and said that the law required the builders to extend the chimney to the usual distance above the top of their wall.

I shall greatly appreciate the favor if you will kindly settle this matter.

Very truly yours,

*C. H. H. H. H. H.*

my Furnace chimney

Apartment Wall (thickness unknown) {a party wall!}



March 7, 1923

Hon. John P. Healy  
Building Inspector  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Since writing you on February 21 concerning the continued neglect of the builders of the apartment #1915-16th St. adjoining my house, to repair various damages, I have had a call from the architects and one of the owners. They said they would repair the roof and other damages, but thus far have continued to do nothing except that I have been informed by Daly & Hopper, roofers, that they had been instructed to repair the roof.

But the architects stated that it was not their duty to carry up the chimney as it was not built on the party wall. I told them that this must be a matter of law or building regulation and therefore it was not worth while for us to discuss it. I therefore wish to ask you whether or not it is the business of the apartment to repair the damage done to the top of my furnace chimney and to carry it up so that it will draft.

As a matter of fact the back part and about six inches of the sides of the chimney in question are actually encased in the new apartment wall, which at the base of the chimney extends beyond it (toward my house) at least six or seven inches.

J. P. H.--#2.

The first inspector you sent here noticed this and said that the law required the builders to extend the chimney to the usual distance above the top of their wall.

I shall greatly appreciate the favor if you will kindly settle this matter.

Very truly yours,

my Furnace chimney

Apartment Wall (thickness unknown) { is this not a party wall? }

Retake of Preceding Frame



March 15, 1923

Mr. R.D. Mock, Secretary  
Consolidation Committee  
Bessimer-American Motors Corp.  
Plainfield, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of the 14th instant  
I enclose herewith my check for \$6.00 in order to  
even up my shares of common stock, as requested, and  
as suggested by me in my letter of February 5 trans-  
mitting my certificates of stock.

Very truly yours,

*C. Eastman*

*What is the par value of the  
anticipating preferred stock?*



March 15, 1923

Mr. R. D. Hook, Secretary  
Consolidation Committee  
Passenger-American Motors Corp.  
Plainfield, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of the 14th instant  
I enclose herewith my check for \$6.00 in order to  
even up my shares of common stock, as requested, and  
as suggested by me in my letter of February 5 trans-  
mitting my certificates of stock.

Very truly yours,

C. Eastman

*What is the fair value of the  
Anticipating Preferred stock?*



March 17, 1923

New Process Company  
Warren, Pennsylvania

Dear Sirs:

The two grips and three shirts ordered by me on approval a few days ago arrived last evening. The big grip is too heavy for an old man to carry, being a load in itself when empty, for which reason I am returning it herewith by parcel post. The others I am keeping although the woman's grip does not shut easily, the two edges of the top meeting instead of one passing under the other as intended.

In place of the heavy grip returned I shall be obliged if you will send me one of your small handbags priced at \$6.95.

In order to save unnecessary correspondence I am enclosing herewith my check for \$26.75 (for the woman's grip, \$14.85; 3 shirts \$4.95; small grip to be sent \$6.95.

Very truly yours,

C. Hart

March 24, 1923.

Mr. Frank J. Lenehan  
Consolidation Committee  
American Motors Corporation  
Plainfield, New Jersey

Dear Sir:

Thanks for your letter of the 22nd instant acknowledging receipt of my check of \$6.00 to even up shares, and advising me that the par value of the participating preferred stock of Bessemer American Motors is \$10.00.

I have not yet received my certificates of stock which I was told in a previous letter were ready for distribution some time ago. I shall be glad to receive them before returning to California in the near future.

Very truly yours,

*E. Hart Meriam*



March 27, 1923

American Motors Corporation  
Plainfield, New Jersey

Dear Sirs:

For some time past there has been a loss of power in the motor of the American Six (the engine number of which is 100147) which I purchased from you the latter part of November last. When Mr. Bryant of your Service Department was here a week or so ago we changed the oil from Mobile Arctic to Mobile A, which helped a little, but not much.

Thinking the trouble likely to be in the valves I have just had the cylinder-head removed and am having the valves ground. Three of the exhaust valves were holding open and all of them beginning to burn. There does not seem to be enough clearance for the valve stems. Furthermore, the second cylinder (from the front) is very badly and deeply scored all the way round. I assume this to be due to a bad ring but did not take the crank case down to find out.

Since leaving your factory with the new car in November last I have driven it 1015 miles.

I shall be obliged if you will take the matter up at once with the Herschell-Spillman Motor Company and let me know the result as early as possible, as I am leaving for California in the near future.

Very truly yours,

C. Hartman

the car no. is D 5034.

March 27, 1923

New Process Company  
Warren, Pennsylvania

Dear Sirs:

Ten days ago I wrote you, and at the same time returned by parcel post the large size man's grip which you had sent me, and in my letter enclosed a check covering the cost of one of your small handbags which I asked you to send to take the place of the big one returned. Since then I have heard nothing from you.

I hope you will be able to send the bag in the near future as I am leaving for California in a few days.

Yours very truly,

C. Hartman

April 10, 1923

Mr John Greany  
Service Manager  
Am. Motors Corporation  
Plainfield, New Jersey

My dear Sir:

Thanks for your letter of the 6th instant, offering to send me a new gas tank. Don't do it. Owing to engine trouble it is necessary to send the car back to Plainfield, as per letter from Sales manager. I cannot do this now as I am leaving this week for California, to be gone until fall.

So when I return I will have to take the car to Plainfield and the various parts needing attention can be fixed at the same time.

Thanking you for your offer,

Very truly yours,

C. H. H. H.



April 13, 1923.

Mr. J. J. Paul, General Sales Manager,  
American Motors Corporation,  
Plainfield, N. J.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of the 2nd inst.  
would state that I am overwhelmed with work preparatory  
to my departure for California in a few days, and therefore  
am not able to drive my car to Plainfield in order to  
have the necessary troubles attended to. The car will  
have to remain in my garage here during the summer and  
I will try to deliver it to you on my return in the fall.  
Several different parts are in need of attention.

Very truly yours,  
*C. H. H. H. H.*

April 13, 1923.

Mr. Proctor W. Hansl, President,  
Bessemer-American Motors Corporation,  
Plainfield, N. J.

My Dear Sir:

On February 5, in compliance with a request from  
your Mr. Ralph D. Mock, Secretary, I forwarded my certificates  
of stock in the American Motors to be replaced by the new  
certificates of the Bessemer-American, but up to date have not  
received the new certificates.

I have written both Mr. Mock and Mr. Frank J.  
Lenahan in regard to the matter but neither has seen fit to  
reply.

I had expected to go to California before this but  
have been detained. I shall leave here, however, in the  
next few days, to be gone at least six months, and should be glad  
to receive the certificates in order that they may be placed  
in my safe-deposit box before leaving. If you will kindly  
expedite the matter I shall be obliged.

Very truly yours,  
*C. H. H. H. H.*

April 17, 1923

Mr Robert Bursner  
Chairman  
Bessemer-American Corporation  
Plainfield, New Jersey

My dear Mr Bursner:

Very many thanks for your courtesey in the matter of  
my Certificates. They arrived today for which I am thankful.

My address for the next six months will be Lagunitas,  
California.

With best wishes for the success of the new company,

Very truly yours,

C. Hart Merriam



June 19, 1920

Mr H. R. Burton  
McLanahan & Burton  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr Burton:

Your letters of May 5 and June 7 are before me. I have been doing a lot of field work in the northern half of the state, and also have recently attended a meeting on Indian affairs at Santa Barbara.

Your letter is a hard one to answer, for the reason that I hardly know what to say. One hates to be imposed upon and made the victim of another's actions.

And furthermore, I hate the kind of a bluff they have put up in that talk about a 5-inch over extension of my south wall. They know as well as we do that a party wall means extension on the adjoining lot, and they know also that the survey and lines were run, not by me but by the District Surveyor. Besides, as a matter of fact, they ought to pay me for the party wall.

And moreover, they kept the front of my house looking like a plaster yard for six months, causing ruination of the polished floors in addition to the locks.

And how about the holes they left in the roof for months to let the rains soak down through the walls and plaster!

However, I didn't put the case in your hands to tell you what to do. Do whatever in your judgment seems best and I will agree not to kick.

Very truly yours,

C. Hart *Hart*



August 2, 1923.

Mr. H. R. Burton  
Union Trust Building  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Burton:

Thanks for your letter of July 25 which reached us last evening on our return from an extended field trip.

While regretting the obstinancy and unfairness of the owners of the apartment next door to my house, I dislike to bring a suit against them. Mrs. Merriam and my daughter feel in the same way, and therefore instead of filing suit shall be glad if you will accept the terms they offered, namely, to clean up and paint the front entrance and put up a metal smoke stack over the furnace flue, with a ten year guarantee for its maintenance.

In the course of the field trip from which we have just returned I obtained a valuable lot of Indian material, including a good vocabulary from a tribe I had not previously visited. This nearly completes my series of about 120 vocabularies of California languages and dialects.

With best wishes,

Very truly yours,

*C. Hart Merriam*

August 4, 1923.

Mr. Frank P. Harbin  
Mutual Service  
1411 New York Ave.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of July 11 forwarded from Washington has just reached me, on my return from a field trip.

I am interested in your proposition to install a 500 gallon tank and vacuum unit at my house for the sum of \$250, cash on installation.

The question is where will you put the tank? One of your men looked over my premises last spring in the hope of inducing me to purchase an underground tank but he did not appear to arrive at a definite conclusion as to where the tank could be placed in conformity with the city regulations. The furnace is in the middle of the cellar and the present inside tank is against the Caroline Street wall.

I shall be glad to hear from you in regard to the matter but do not expect to return to Washington before the end of October.

Very truly yours,

*C. Hart Harrison*



August 6, 1923

Assessor  
District of Columbia

Dear Sir:

On returning to my summer headquarters from a field trip in the north, I am disappointed not to find in my forwarded mail the usual blank forms for Personal and Intangible tax.

I shall be obliged therefore if you will send me, addressed to Lagunitas, California, two copies of the blank.

Very truly yours,

C. Hartman

August 21, 1923.

Assessor  
District of Columbia.

Dear Sir:

Herewith is my personal and intangible tax statement for the current year.

I left Washington about the middle of April, since which I have been engaged in field work in northwestern California. On returning to my summer headquarters at Lagunitas on August 1, I was surprised to find that the usual tax blank had not been received, and immediately wrote you asking that duplicate copies be sent me. These arrived yesterday and I have filled them to the best of my ability.

Unfortunately I can not find any memorandum as to the number or par value of shares I hold in the Bessamer-American Motors Corporation, which in emerging from receivership, is of very uncertain value. I have estimated the value at \$5,000 which probably is considerably above its present cash value.

Respectfully,

C. H. H. H. H. H.



Nov. 8, 1923.

Mr. H. R. Burton,  
McLanahan & Burton,  
Union Trust Bldg.,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Burton:

Please pardon my delay in not replying to your several letters, which awaited my return from field work in the north.

We are glad to know that the chimney pipes are likely to be in place before our return.

We have been extremely busy this season and on returning from the last trip I attended an Indian convention, after which I brought several Indians home to our place at Lagunitas where I have been working with them until two days ago. We expect to return to Washington in ten days or two weeks.

We appreciate the annoyance you have been put to in the matter of the house, and are very much obliged for your persistence.

Very truly yours

*C. H. H. H. H.*

Washington  
Dec. 14, 1923

Dear Julia:

Enclosed is your coupon for the present month. I got it this morning--first time I have had time to go to the Safe Deposit since our return from California.

We are much pleased to learn from Florence that you are likely to be here for the Holidays.

Elizabeth has been in bed several days trying to recover from a very bad cut on her forehead from striking the sharp edge of a galvanized iron register box in the basement. She was cared for by one of our best surgeons, who sewed it up and will see her again today.

The city is white today with the first snow of the season.

With love from us all,

As ever yours,

*W. H. H. H.*

Dec. 14, 1923

Mr Geo. W. White  
President National Metropolitan Bank  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr White:

In accordance with our conversation this morning, I am enclosing herewith my check for \$1027.08 for \$1000 First Mortgage (with interest to Jan. 15) in name of M and G Hermann, 1355 Randolph Street, payable Jan. 15, 1926, 6½%.

Very truly yours,

*C. H. H. H.*



January 12, 1924

Mr. P. H. Smith,  
Service Manager,  
American Motors Corporation,  
Plainfield, New Jersey.

Dear Sir:

The man from your factory whom you said would take my car to Plainfield on or before the 10th instant has not yet shown up. When will he be here? The car is practically useless in its present condition. I drove it about three miles this morning for the first time in ten days and the grabbing and terrible shaking I spoke of occurred three times.

Very truly yours,

*C. Hart American*

January 12, 1924

Woodward & Lothrop,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sirs:

Shortly after Christmas I purchased at your store a Thermo sweater, size 34, with the privilege of exchange if the size was not right. On bringing it home I found that it was too small and returned it next morning to exchange for a 36. The salesman told me that you were out of 36 but that he would order one and have it delivered to my house, 1919 Sixteenth Street, within a week. It is now more than two weeks and thus far the thing has not arrived.

Very truly yours,

*C. Hart American*

February 6, 1924

Mr. George W. White,  
President, National Metropolitan Bank  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. White:

Today my daughter Zenaida lost her pocket-book in one of the Sixteenth Street herdies. The pocket-book contained a check drawn by me to the order of Zenaida Merriam for \$25, dated January 1, 1924, check No. 157. I shall be obliged if you will kindly stop payment on this check.

Very truly yours,

C. R. [Signature]



March 4, 1927

Mr. G. L. Nicolson,  
Chairman Telegraphone Finance Committee,  
Box 3613, Georgetown Station,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Responding to your circular letter dated March 1, I am enclosing herewith my check for \$15.00 as a contribution toward the expense of litigation.

I feel that all stockholders should support Mr. Sullivan in the splendid work he has done and is doing in our behalf.

I note that you do not advise stockholders to attend the meeting called by H. P. O'Reilly for the 6th instant. Would it not be worth while for you or Mr. Sullivan to be present at that meeting to tell the stockholders the truth?

With best wishes,

Very truly yours,

*C. Hart Merriam*

March 12, 1924

Dr. Clinton L. Bagg,  
56 West 52nd Street,  
New York City.

Dear Clint:

Not long ago I forwarded to you a letter from Aline. Now a postcard for you has just reached me and also a card enclosed in an envelope; all of which I am enclosing to you herewith. What a pity it is that Aline is in the condition her communications indicate.

Dorothy and children have been with us for some time--most of the winter, in fact--and are expecting to return to Boston in a few days. You have probably heard that Dorothy lost her appendix during the early part of her visit here.

Are you and Hetta not coming on here this winter? We hope you are.

With best love to you both,

As ever,

Hett



March 13, 1924

Collector of Internal Revenue,  
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Sir:

Herewith I enclose my Income Tax Return for the  
year 1923, amounting to \$98.20, with check for the  
first three quarterly payments amounting to \$73.65.

Very truly yours,

*C. Hart Merriam*



April 1, 1924

Dear Lyman:

It was good to hear from you a few days ago, and was also a good deal of a surprise. Maybe your change of base will give you more time and energy for writing.

I quite agree with you that there seems little reason to doubt the current and widely diffused opinion that Fall is a scoundrel, and agree also in the feeling that attacks on Denby, Roosevelt, and one or two others are outrages which a civilized government ought to be able to punish.

Yes, King David was pretty sly, but he had the power to gratify his desires without fear of impeachment by the victims and their friends. The clipping you enclosed is a little too shocking for me to read aloud to your father, as suggested in your letter.

Augusta and family are here and we have greatly enjoyed what little we have been able to see of them; particularly an auto trip to Mount Vernon yesterday, followed by supper at our house. This is the first time we have had a chance to become acquainted with Hester and Carol. Betty we knew before, when she was with Florence and Vernon. They are a fine batch of girls.

Now we wish we could have a similar chance with your family, whom we don't know at all. Perhaps you and Dille will

Lyman Merriam -2-

be able to bring them down some of these days.

I have not been to New York for several years and doubt if I get there for a year or two yet, as my job lies in the opposite direction.

The weather bureau forecasted fine weather for today but we are in the midst of a snow storm with two or three inches already, and still going. And what is still worse, Dorothy leaves on the Federal this evening for Boston. She had expected to go a couple of weeks ago but her little Beth has been sick.

With love to you all,

As ever yours,

*Hart*

Mr. Lyman L. Merriam,  
7 State Street,  
Ossining, N. Y.



July 5, 1924

Mr. Robert Bursner, President  
Bessemer-American Motors Corporation  
Plainfield, New Jersey

My dear Sir:

Have you any word of encouragement for the Bessemer-American Stockholders?

It is a very long time since your Stockholders have received any statement or any information of any kind concerning the operations and prospects of the Company. I shall be very glad to hear from you.

Very truly yours,

C. Hartman

Collector Internal Revenue  
Baltimore, Maryland

Dec. 10, 1924

Dear Sir:

Herewith I am enclosing my check on the National Metropolitan Bank of this city for \$73.65 in payment of accompanying Income Tax bill. Last summer I had with me in California a memorandum stating that I had paid this tax on March 14. But on looking over my returned checks I do not find it, and therefore am sending another check for the amount.

Respectfully,

C. Hart Merriam -

January 10, 1925

Mr T.M.B. Dunn  
Income Tax Division  
Room 202 Custom House  
Baltimore, Maryland

Replying to your letter of the 9th instant, just recieved, would refer you to my letter of December 10 [copy enclosed] transmitting check for \$73.65 in payment of the Income Tax bill in question.

Respectfully,

C. Hart Merriam -



Feb. 24, 1925

Mr Geo. W. White, President  
National Metropolitan Bank  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr White:

Many thanks for your letter of the 21st instant, telling me that the Lewis Note for Five thousand dollars maturing April 15 can be paid at once, and offering to reinvest at  $6\frac{1}{2}\%$ .

This is good news, and in accordance with your recommendation I have signed the check for \$5,000 which you enclosed and am handing it to you herewith, assuming of course that the Lewis \$5,000 will be deposited to my account before the check is turned in.

Appreciating your kind attentions in the matter,

Very truly yours,

*C. Kutznerianum*





Dec. 15, 1925

Assessor  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Thanks for sending my Real Estate Tax bill for 1926. The amount of the tax, \$323.82, is appalling and leads me to suspect an error of some kind, possibly by inclusion of the next lot on the south which formerly belonged to me.

Four years ago (1921) the tax on the lot on which my house now stands, entered in the Tax bill as Lot 805, jumped from \$158.10 to \$205.53. The bill for 1925 (paid a year ago) was \$253.58; while the bill just received is for \$323.82.

Can you tell me on what basis these terrific increases in the tax are made? I am not aware of any corresponding increase in property values.

The assessment on my house lot (containing only 1870 feet) is entered as \$7948, which would be at the rate of \$4.25 a square foot, more I think than its actual market value.

Since for some years I have been engaged in field work in California, returning to Washington for the winter, I have not been informed of the action of the assessors in making these appalling increases in the assessed valuation of my home, and have had no opportunity to appear before your Board.

Before leaving California, about a month ago, I paid my Personal Tax of \$116.02 on this same property, making my total tax for the year \$439.84, which I think you will admit is much too high for the value of the property.

Very truly yours,

*G. H. Hartman*



Jan. 7, 1926

Dear Henry:

What is probably the finest hospital on the American continent was recently finished and opened in Alameda, on San Francisco Bay. It is a wonderful building and its equipment is believed to be superior to that of any other like institution.

There is no furnace in the building and no coal, oil, or gas. The heating, lighting, hot water service, laundry work, cooking, and various other things are all done by electric current. A large electric cable runs directly from the power house into the hospital.

The heating throughout is done by the Wosix Air Heaters of the two types shown in the enclosed circular--the Portable Type and the Flush Wall Type. I have stood in front of both of them and have been surprised at the quantity of heat distributed. The cost of current for the hospital is less than the .02 $\frac{1}{2}$  mentioned in the circular.

The hospital is the one planned by Dr. W. Barclay Stephens, of Alameda. Before starting to build, Dr. Stephens visited the best hospitals in Boston, New York, Baltimore, and Washington, including the Walter Reed.

I had thought that the cost of current in Washington would preclude the use of these as a supplemental heater for cold rooms. The present price of current here, under the law which went

into effect a week ago, is .03 $\frac{1}{2}$  per kh after the first ten kh, which cost .07 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

I am mighty glad I went to Cambridge. It was lovely to see you all in your beautiful new house and to have a few days with you all.

If you will kindly get Beth a pair of those shoes with skates attached and send me a memorandum of cost, I will send check to cover same, as a belated Christmas gift from Grandpa. Incidentally, I feel that these belated presents are of much more account than those distributed on Christmas Day, for the double reason that they come as a complete surprise and come after the others have lost a good deal of their freshness.

Be sure to get first class skates and shoes and big enough so they will serve her for another year.

With love to you all,

C. Hartman



January 21, 1926.

Dear Betty:

You are the hardest girl to write to that I ever knew; the trouble is that you stay too far away. It is a singular fact in human psychology that while a letter is a letter, nevertheless it is much easier to write to people within rifle range than to those on the other side of the big water. Furthermore, letters accumulate with such pernicious rapidity that I have not yet caught up with the stack that began to accumulate before I went to Cambridge to see Dorothy and our grandchildren the last week of the old year.

However, you are a good girl to write your old uncle once in a while and you may rest assured that he is always glad to hear from you.

It is a fine thing that you folks were able to make this trip and see all the wonderful things that you have seen and that you hope to see.

The principal danger of such trips is that when they come home the girls that make them are so saturated with foreign languages and accents that it is very difficult for them to talk straight United States and they are liable to use words that many of us fail to understand by reason of which we develop a painfully humble feeling when in their presence.

- 2 -

You tell me a curious thing -- that in your literary peregrinations you have come across the book "Bird Woman" by J. Willard Schultz, and that you were astonished to find it dedicated to his son, Hart Merriam Schultz. This really is all right so far as the book is concerned, and it may be added that the young man has developed remarkable talent as an artist, some of his paintings commanding high prices in New York and other places. The main objection to him, aside from being his father's son, seems to be that he does not always tell the truth. His mother was a full blood Blackfeet Indian. In the long ago days when I practiced medicine and surgery in northern New York his father was one of my patients; likewise his grandmother.

You are getting acquainted with altogether too many people over there. This probably seems all right to you for the time being, but there is an aftermath which is terrible to contemplate; namely, the time you will have to waste in writing letters to them after you return. Speaking of writing letters, I want to congratulate you on the evident ease with which you write and also more particularly on the improvement in your handwriting. Nevertheless, there is even yet room for --. You have succeeded in making your "I" stand up, which in itself is a great accomplishment, but your capital "Us" and "Vs" look like all sorts of things. And why is it that girls write letters without either dating them or giving



their address!

Between Christmas and New Years I had to go to New Haven for a few days for the reason that I had the misfortune to be elected President of the American Society of Naturalists which held its annual meeting in New Haven in connection with meetings of the Anthropologists and other scientific societies.

When the ordeal was over, instead of coming straight back to Washington I went to Cambridge to see the easternmost branch of my family, as I had been there only once since Dorothy's marriage. I found them well and interesting. The grandchildren have developed splendidly and their new house is the most perfect dwelling I have ever seen. It was built by an engineer, Professor Whipple of Harvard, who died a year or two ago. It is so comfortably arranged and contains so many cubbies, shelves and handy places and things that it would take me a week to tell you about it. Another advantage is that it has a double-barrel concrete garage close to the kitchen door, and stands alone in a yard with plenty of trees and shrubbery.

It is within a few days of two months since we returned from California and except the few days when I was in New England I have worked ten or twelve hours a day as hard as I could without being able to catch up with accumulated mail and other odds and ends, so that I am only just now beginning to feel that I can take up my real work in a few days.

Your devoted uncle Vernon is just now enjoying himself among the muskrats and alligators of the Louisiana marshes. He reports difficulty in catching the muskrats for when near by they sometimes disappear suddenly and the only way he can find them is by splitting open a neighboring alligator. In one of these he found no fewer than eight muskrats.

Your cousin Floddie and your aunt Florence are still thriving and appear to be taking a sufficient quantity of nourishment, but if you were here you could save them lots of trouble.

Thus far this winter we have had only one snowstorm that amounted to anything and it did not amount to much -- only about three inches.

I have not had time to go to the Zoo since I came back, but when you come home I will agree to accompany you and as often as you like. Incidentally, I am glad that you were able to see the British Museum of Natural History.

With best love to you all, in which your aunt Elizabeth and Zenaida join

As ever,

*Your affectionate  
and devoted  
Uncle Vernon*

Miss Betty Hone,  
Hotel Danube  
58 Rue Jacob  
Paris, France.



May 20, 1926

Mr Geo. W. White, President  
National Metropolitan Bank  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr White:

Thanks for your letter of the 14th instant  
acknowledging my check for \$1,000 and telling me that  
you have purchased a like amount in first mortgage  
notes at 6% on property of John H. Wright, maturing  
May 12, 1929, secured on lots 66 to 70, square 1956  
known as 3501 36th Street, NW.

I thank you for your kind offices in the  
matter.

Very truly yours,

*C. Hart*





November 30, 1926  
December 3, 1926

Dear Julia:

Herewith I am enclosing your Washington Railway and Electric Coupon for \$20. payable now.

We had a short but very busy field season in California, returning the middle of November. I was obliged to be here earlier than usual in order to read proof of an article on the Pit River Indians now passing through the press under the Smithsonian Institution.

Zensida, as you doubtless know, returned by way of Panama and Havana, and had a glorious trip.

Floddie is with us while Florence and Vernon are still in California.

We all are very well except my eyes which are feeling the effects of too much proof and manuscript.

With love from us all

As ever,

Hart

Mrs. C. L. Merriam  
1008 Washington Street  
Watertown, New York.

Mrs. Zensida Dennis, the Sioux Indian woman who is president of the National Council of American Indians, came in here a few days ago. She hopes California Indians will have nothing more to do with collect.

With kind regards to all your people

Very truly yours,



December 7, 1926

Mr. A. Willige  
Office of Assessor  
District of Columbia.

Dear Sir:

Does your office ever slip a cog?

This afternoon I received the accompanying notice to the effect that I am inflicted with a penalty of 20% for failure to file a tax return last July as required by law.

I filed my personal tax return as usual in July before leaving for California, and on November 12, paid the tax in full, \$117.54 (your account number 26254) by check number 404, on the National Metropolitan Bank of this city. A week or so later I received from the office of the Tax Collector receipt for the above tax, dated November 18, 1926.

Very truly yours,

*E. J. Harrison*



Jan. 1927

Miss 7458  
Outlook Office  
New York City

Your advertisement in the Outlook of January 19  
attracted my attention.

As you are seeking an opportunity to do "interest-  
ing and useful work", and as I am ~~looking~~ on this sort of work and  
SHORT on competent qualified assistants, I'm writing for more  
information.

I am a naturalist and ethnologist of the old school  
struggling in an effort to prepare for the press a reasonable  
percentage of a lifetime's accumulation of material relating to  
the Indians of California and the mammals, birds, reptiles, trees  
and brush of Western America. I still carry on fieldwork in  
California about half of each year.

If interested, let me hear from you.

C. Hart Merriam



Feb. 3, 1927

Miss Barbara Hastings  
317 Laramie Street  
Atchison, Kansas

Dear Miss Hastings:

Thanks for your letter of January 28.

It's a pity that we live so far apart. A halfhour in my office would give you a better idea of the work than a dozen letters.

You ask about salary but say nothing about qualifications. The salary depends on what I get in return. If you are a good stenographer you will be worth much more both in office and the field than if you are not.

Have you any languages--especially Spanish?

Other qualifications that count with me are accuracy, neatness and order in everything, pen printing (for labels and Indian words), experience in the preparation of manuscript and proof reading, familiarity with library work--searching for and extracting material, with exact references, and so on.

Then, the personal element is of at least equal importance--willingness to help all along the line--to do things my way; to do anything to save my time--from setting traps for gophers or helping grease the car, to searching books on western exploration for references to Grizzly Bears or Indians, or reading a manuscript for criticisms before sending to press.



Here in Washington I usually have one or two stenographers and one or two other assistants. Just now I have three in all. In the field in California I have only one besides my daughter.

I aim to pay a girl what she is worth to me, which means, if she is not well qualified, about a hundred dollars a month.

What is your weight and height?

Have you any special aptitude for work relating to Indians mammals, birds, reptiles, or plants?

Very truly yours,



Feb. 16, 1927

Dear Miss Hastings:

Thanks for your letter of the 22<sup>d</sup> instant.

Obviously you can print, and with hardly any practice can print our way.

It's a pity you are not a stenographer since in California I can have only one assistant besides my daughter and must have a stenographer.

Two suggestions occur to me: (1) That you begin at once at or near your own home; or (2) that you come soon to Washington and study in one of the several business schools here.

If you are strong enough to stand both day and evening work I could take you at once as a general assistant while you are learning stenography at the business school.

While always in need of a stenographer on field trips, the need is still more urgent between trips, at my California home at Lagunitas, 25 miles north of San Francisco.

Mrs Merriam or my daughter, or both, accompany me on most of the field trips. But before thinking seriously of California it would be highly desirable to have had some experience with my office work here.

Very truly yours,

Miss Barbara Hastings  
317 Larnie Street  
Atchison, Kansas



Feb. 27, 1927

Miss Barbara Hastings  
317 Laramie Street  
Atchison, Kansas

Dear Miss Hastings:

Your letter of the 23<sup>d</sup> came last evening.

I am glad to know that you have decided to come, and shall look for you on the 14<sup>th</sup>. Your salary at first will be at the rate of a hundred dollars a month, as general assistant. There is waiting much that you can do to help me, and at the same time become familiar with some phases of the work.

If you are a stranger to Washington and have no friends here either my daughter or I will be glad to meet you at the train and deliver you at some temporary stopping place.

Very truly yours,

*C. H. Merriam*



May 7, 1927

Charles Scribner's Sons  
597 Fifth Avenue  
New York City

Dear Sirs:

Today I am sending you by express(prepaid) a manuscript entitled 'A-nik-a-del: The History of the Universe as told by the Modesse Indians of California. It records the beliefs of a primitive people.

If you do not care to publish it, kindly return by express, charges collect.

For several years I have tried without success to secure suitable illustrations--the artists failing to express the spirit of the Indian beliefs. A previous volume was illustrated by E. W. Deming and Carlos Hittel(The Dawn of the World. A.H.Clark Co. 1912).

A photograph of Istet Woiche and wife, from whom I obtained the story, and photographs of the Jumping Rock of the First People, and one of the Footprint of old Coyote-man, accompany the manuscript.

I have a number of photographs of scenery in the Modesse country, but they seem to me to detract from the spirit of the myth.

Very truly yours,

*C. Hart Merriam*



May 31, 1927

Charles Scribner's Sons  
Publishers, 597 Fifth Ave  
New York City

Dear Sirs:

On May 7 I sent you by express (prepaid) a manuscript entitled 'Annikadel' but have not recieved any acknowledgment of its receipt.

Tomorrow I am leaving for my summer home at Lagunitas California, which will be my mail address for the next four or five months.

In case you return the manuscript by express, please address it to me at San Rafael, California, and notify me by mail at Lagunitas--there being no express office at Lagunitas.

Very truly yours,



July 12, 1927

The Macmillan Company  
60 Fifth Avenue  
New York City

Dear Sirs:

Herewith I am sending you by express (prepaid) a book manuscript entitled An-nik-a-del, the history of the universe as told by the Modesse Indians of California.

If it appeals to you I shall be glad to hear from you in regard to publication; if not, kindly return by express, charges collect, addressed to me at San Rafael, California, and notify me by mail at Lagunitas. There is no express office at Lagunitas.

Very truly yours,

Enclosed with the manuscript are three photographs of the forests and waters of the Big Bend Pit River region--the scene of the story; also a photo of the narrator, Istet Moiche, with his wife. The latter has been printed in my technical paper on the Pit River Indians--which however is of very limited distribution (Smithsonian Misc. Contributions, vol. 78, no. 3, 1926.)

See 539



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253a  
253a

August 31, 1927

Miss Ruth M. Bryant  
Editorial Department  
The Macmillan Company  
New York City

My dear Miss Bryant:

Absence in the field, working with Indians in the northern part of California, has delayed my acknowledgment of your courteous letter of July 28, accompanying the returned manuscript of Annikadel.

I realize of course the small demand for works of this sort and am not at all surprised that the manuscript was returned.

Very truly yours,

C. Hart Merriam



August 7, 1927

Houghton Mifflin Co.  
Publishers  
Boston, Mass.

Dear Sirs:

Herewith I am sending you by express (prepaid) the manuscript of a book entitled AN-NIK-A-DEL, the history of the universe according to the Modesse Indians of California.

If it appeals to you I shall be glad to hear from you in regard to possible publication; if not, kindly return by express, charges collect, addressed to me at San Rafael, Calif., and notify me by mail at Lagunitas. There is no express office at Lagunitas.

With the manuscript are three photographs of forests and waters in the land of the tribe whose religion is here told, and one of the narrator, Istet Woiche, with his wife. The latter has been published in my technical paper on the Pit River Indians --which however is of very limited distribution (Smithsonian Misc. Collections, vol 78, no. 3, 1926.)

Very truly yours,

*Albert H. Mearns**See next page*



Memorandum to Editor

The number of Indian names and their frequent repetition gives the book a semi-technical aspect. This might be materially lessened by omitting many of the Indian words in the text and headings and collecting them in a glossary at the end. I am willing to do this.

The narrator (Istet Weiche) in quoting the remarks of one personage to another always began with the word 'you', as "You go and build a fire". The you might be omitted.

Hyphens.--As a rule Indian words should be hyphenated by syllables, or, if this seems objectionable, their first appearance should be with hyphens, after which they might be printed solid.

Commas.--The manuscript is not uniform in the use of commas between Indian personal names and their English equivalents. Thus,

"Jamul the Coyote-man went fishing",

or

"Jamul, the Coyote-man, went fishing".

I prefer the former but do not insist.

Cross references in the manuscript are of course to MS pages, to be fixed in the proof.



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253d

253d

Attention A. J. Trageser

July 30, 1927

Galen L. Tait, Collector  
Internal Revenue Service  
Baltimore, Maryland

Replying to your inquiry of July 21 (forwarded from Washington and received today) would say that the item of \$190, office expense, was for use and deterioration of four or five rooms of my house (1919 16th Street, Washington) for office purposes by three (sometimes four) clerks and stenographers continuously while engaged in official work, but not charged to my Smithsonian account. } Because of lack of room in the Smithsonian, 40 steel file cases, 6 safes, and several desks, typewriters, bookcases and other office materials are kept in my house. The ten dollar auto item was in connection with my official Dodge car in which I drove to California in performance of my regular official work.

I explained both of these items to your representative on Pennsylvania Avenue near 14th Street and he said the charges were perfectly proper.

U. Hart Merriam



Oct. 17, 1927

The Stratford Company  
234-240 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts

Dr Henry T. Schmittkind

Dear Sir:

From time to time for several years past you have invited me to submit manuscripts with a view to publication. In response, I am now sending you by express (prepaid) a book manuscript entitled ANNKADEL--a history of the universe as told by the Modesse Indians of California.

If it appeals to you I shall be glad to hear from you with regard to publication; if not, kindly return by express, charges collect, addressed to me at 1919 16th Street, Washington, D.C.

With the manuscript are three photographs of forests and waters of the Pit River region in northern California, the scene of the story, and one of the narrator, Istet Woiche, with his wife. The latter was published last year in my technical paper on the Pit River Indians--which however is of very limited distribution (Smithsonian Misc. Contributions, vol. 78, no. 3.).

Very truly yours,

C. Hart Merriam



Nov. 3, 1927

Mr Henry T. Schnittkind  
The Stratford Company  
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Sir:

Your proposition of October 27, that I pay the cost of publication, rather staggers me. Nevertheless I may be able to do this. But first I would like to see your contract.

You speak of making the book an illustrated volume. I assume that you refer to the reproduction of the few photographs sent with the manuscript.

The manuscript as it stands is not fully revised as to the form of the Indian names--many being hyphenated, many not. Please return it at once and I will make them uniform.

The best way to handle the Indian words, it seems to me, is to print them in Italics, solid, omitting hyphens and accents (except in a few of unusual length), and following the first occurrence of each by a parenthesis in which the word is repeated hyphenated and accented, thus: Annikadel(An-nik'-a-del'). This would greatly simplify the typography and at the same time result in a better looking page--at least, so it seems to me.

Awaiting the return of the manuscript and contract

Very truly yours,

*C. Hart Merriam*

*Kindly return this by express, chp collect*

Nov. 20, 1927

Mr Henry T. Schnittkind  
President, The Stratford Co  
234 Boylston Street, Boston

Dear Sir:

Since receipt of your letter of the 8th instant, with contract and returned manuscript of Annikadel, I have been so continuously occupied with the Annual Convention of the American Ornithologists' Union that I have been unable even to open the package of manuscript. However, that is over now and I hope to tackle the thing tomorrow.

There are one or two small matters I'd like to be sure about: I assume that no illustrations will be used except the four photos submitted with the manuscript; that I shall be allowed to approve the cover design; and that in matters of punctuation and capitals the printer will follow copy. Is this correct? In all of these matters I shall welcome suggestions and criticism but wish to have final say.

Just one other point: The contract states that the Publisher will make statements and settlements "upon written application therefor"--thus calling for at least two wholly unnecessary letters each year from the author, who in my case is far away in the field. I don't like this.

Very truly yours,



Nov. 3, 1927

Mr Henry T. Schnittkind  
The Stratford Company  
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Sir:

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Awaiting the return of the manuscript and contract

Very truly yours,

*C. Hart Merriam*

*Kindly return the ms by express, also collect*

Nov. 20, 1927

Mr Henry T. Schnittkind  
President, The Stratford Co  
234 Boylston Street, Boston

Dear Sir:

Since receipt of your letter of the 8th instant, with contract and returned manuscript of Annikadel, I have been so continuously occupied with the Annual Convention of the American Ornithologists' Union that I have been unable even to open the package of manuscript. However, that is over now and I hope to tackle the thing tomorrow.

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Just one other point: The contract states that the Publisher will make statements and settlements "upon written application therefor"--thus calling for at least two wholly unnecessary letters each year from the author, who in my case is far away in the field. I don't like this.

Very truly yours,



March 2, 1928.

Dear Lyman:

Very many thanks for your clear, businesslike, and most interesting letter about Julia's death and affairs.

I suspect that you will find either a later will or one with a number of codicils.

The sudden appearance of your dear little daughter Sally a day or two ago was a joy as well as a surprise to the Washington branch of the family. Too bad she and her old man had to pull out so soon.

I am having great luck just now in the unexpected presence of two Indian Chiefs from the Pit River country in northeastern California. They came to attend a Hearing or two before the Indian Committee in Congress and expected to go back several days ago. But they have now agreed to stay until the early part of next week so that I am gathering a rich harvest of their kind of material.

With love to you all,

As ever

Hart

Mr. Lyman L. Merriam  
56 South Highland Avenue  
Ossining, New York



March 4, 1928

Dear Lyman:

I had expected to send you before this the description of a bond I bought for Julia some years ago and still hold in my safe deposit box at the bank. But for the past 8 or 10 days I have had a couple of chiefs of the Pit River Indian tribes here in my office, and usually for two meals a day also, and have been putting in 10 or 12 hours a day on their work and simply have'nt had a chance to run down to the vaults. However its safe and I'll send you the proper description of it soon or if you prefer, I'll ship the bond itself. It's a Washington Ry & El 5 and is well regarded here.

Hope you had good luck in the north if you went.

Every month or so we catch a glymps of your beautiful, dutiful, and much in demand daughter; and last week we actually saw the long and the short of 'em together--a rare sight as well as a good one.

Lyman L. Merriam, general handy man, pilot, business manager and savior of the scattered oncoming and expiring members of the gang, Ossining, New York.



April 5, 1928

Mr Lyman L. Merriam  
Ossining, New York

Dear Lyman:

Very many thanks for your letter of April 2, enclosing a copy of Julia's Will. It is most generous to all of us, for which we are duly thankful.

When you have dug up her distant and unknown relatives and have probated the Will--or earlier if you wish--I will send you the Bond I wrote you about, which is still in my Safe Deposit box at the bank.

Augusta and Betty left us for New York this morning, after a too brief visit.

And we all are looking forward to Dillie's coming in the impending future. It will be good for all hands, including your beautiful daughter who otherwise might have been tempted to undertake the perilous journey to the Wicked City.

Col. Brandreth's death on top of the Julia affairs must keep Lyman fairly occupied. But we are looking forward to the promised visit before we set out on our annual pilgrimage to the Golden West.

With love from us all,

As ever,

*H. H. H.*

Original Defective



April 14, 1928

Mr Lyman L. Merriam, Executor  
Estate of Julia Bush Merriam  
Ossining, New York

Dear Lyman:

Thanks for your letter of the 12th instant, asking me to hand to your good wife the Bond in my possession belonging to Julia's estate. But I do not intend to do anything of the kind. Many years experience as executor and trustee of estates and syndicates has taught me not to place on any person the responsibility of conveying on his or her person valuable securities. I have always sent them by Banker's Insurance-- and have sent, I believe, more than \$75 thousand through Banks and Trust Companies, without losing a cent.

So on Monday the 16th I purpose sending you, addressed to the First National Bank of Ossining, and insured as above, the bond in question. It is a Washington Railway and Electric Consol. Mtg 4s of 1951, int. June & Dec. <sup>at 85%</sup> with coupons attached. I cut and sent Julia the last coupon early in December last.

Dillie and daughter appear to be having plenty to do but I'm sorry I've been too busy to see as much of them as hoped.

As ever yours,

*Hand*

*Forgot to say that last sale here was 3 days ago (April 11) @ 93 1/2.*



April 30, 1928

The Stratford Co., Publishers  
289 Congress Street, Boston

Dear Sirs:

Herewith I am enclosing my check on the National  
Metropolitan Bank of this city for \$500 dollars in payment  
of the third and final instalment due you for the publica-  
tion of my book AN-NIK-A-DEL.

Very truly yours,

*C. East American*



May 21, 1928.

Dear Harry:

A few days ago I sent you by express addressed to Escondido the original Journal of your Father, concerning which I wrote you some time ago.

With it is a typewritten copy which your Aunt Elizabeth and I have carefully compared with the original, making all the corrections we were sure of. Some of the words, you will observe, are a little difficult to make out.

We hope to start on our annual drive to California by the tenth of June. If all goes well we hope to see you in the Fall.

With love from all of us to all of you in Merriam Valley.

As ever yours,

*E. M. Merriam*

Mr. Harry S. Merriam  
San Marcos  
California



January 2, 1929

Egbert Bagg & Co.  
219 Genesee Street  
Utica, New York

Dear Sirs:

Thanks for renewal of policies just received for  
furniture, and so on, in my house at 1919 - 16th Street,  
Washington, D. C., namely:

London, Liverpool & Globe D-14230 expiring  
January 18, 1932, \$3750.

Hartford, 10042, expiring January 18, 1932, \$3750.

Premium \$16.88 each, \$33.76 for which my check  
on the National Metropolitan Bank of this city is  
enclosed herewith.

Very truly yours,

*C. Hart Murrian*

CHM:L



January 7, 1929

Mr. A. M. Robertson  
222 Stockton Street  
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Mr. Robertson:

Acknowledging my letter to you of December 19,  
you wrote me on December 25 that you had sent in  
compliance with my request a copy of Martin Johnson's  
Safari to Dr. W. Barclay Stephens, 1250 Bay Street,  
Alameda, but your bill has not yet reached me. If  
not already sent I shall be obliged if you will  
forward it, as I aim to keep my accounts correct to  
date.

With best wishes,

Very truly yours,

*C. Hart Johnson*

CHM:L



January 7, 1925

Dr. H. C. Shepardson  
 Pittsburgh Building  
 San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Doctor Shepardson:

Today I have received the enclosed official report from the National Vaccine and Antitoxin Institute of this city. It is so gratifying that I thought you would be glad to see it.

I have reduced the daily dose of Insulin to 2 units and still have no trace of sugar.

With best wishes.

Very truly yours,

CHM:L



February 20, 1929

Mr. P. Martinelli  
Lagunitas, California

Dear Mr. Martinelli:

Thanks for your letter of the 11th instant. I am sorry to know that there are still a few leaks in the house. If they do not soak up, and enough water comes through to do damage, please phone Mr. George Kendall. His address is 1015 Red Hill Avenue, San Anselmo. He has a phone but I do not remember the number. You will find it in the phone book. Probably he cannot come up any day but Sunday, as is a builder very busy with contract work during the week.

We have had rather a mild winter for Washington, with very little snow. About an inch fell last night so that the ground is white this morning but it is not likely to last long.

We are all well and hope you and your family are the same. With best wishes to you all, in which Mrs. Merriam joins.

Very truly yours,

C. Hart Merriam

CHM:L



May 6, 1929

County Treasurer  
Watertown  
Jefferson County, New York

Dear Sir:

The accompanying notice in the matter of the Estate of Julia Bush Merriam, deceased, has just reached me, and in accordance with the statement contained therein that an inheritance tax of \$100.30 is due, I am enclosing herewith my check on the National Metropolitan Bank of this city for that amount.

Very truly yours,

*C. West Merriam*

CHM:L



May 14, 1929

Mr. George W. White, President  
National Metropolitan Bank  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. White:

Thanks for your letter of yesterday telling me that the Wright note due on the 12th instant has been paid with interest, amounting to \$2030.

In accordance with your kind offer to reinvest in another first mortgage note for \$3000 at 6% I have signed and am returning herewith the check you were good enough to enclose.

Very truly yours,

*Chas. H. ...*

CHM:L



May 21, 1929

Mr. George W. White, President  
National Metropolitan Bank  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. White:

Thanks for your letter of yesterday telling me that with my recent check for \$1,000. you have purchased for me and placed in the bank for collection like amount of first mortgage real estate notes signed by A. L. and J. S. Parker, dated May 14, 1929 and maturing three years after date at 6% interest.

I am obliged for your kind attention in the matter.

Very truly yours,

*C. West Harrison*

CHM:L



yesterday as her husband had to go off to a prearranged conference. Zee hoped she might get Angie to come over and be with her during the first strenuous days.

You folks are lucky--as lucky as if you were the preordained salt of the earth--to be able to spend so much time in the grandest and most interesting place on earth. We envy you. What a joy to have Swifts and Violet-Greens sailing about under your noses--not to mention other pleasant things. I wonder if the Canyon form of the California Woodpecker is in evidence there this year.

We are nearly packed and expect to leave Washington Monday evening (June 17) arriving in San Francisco Friday morning the 21st, and expect Zenaida to meet us at the ferry with our Dodge car. The main difficulties apparent are in getting Elizabeth up and down the car steps as she cannot step either up or down.

Hoping that you are laying up a store of Spilogale observations and that Barbara Hastings continues her literary exploits and enjoyment of the region.

off - Had -

June 14, 1929

Dear Florence and Vernon:

It beats all how letters to and from you are delayed somewhere--I expect at the Canyon Postoffice. Yours received yesterday said you had not yet heard from the result of the X-ray. This seems strange in view of the fact that the operation on her knee was done the 31st of May, as I wrote you immediately afterward.

Elizabeth is doing as well as could be expected. She gets out of bed (but not without assistance) and walks with crutches into the library and back several times a day but is always pretty tired afterward. Her plaster leg is dreadfully heavy and she is not able to lift it from the floor without assistance.

Zenaida doubtless reached Lagunitas alone

leg is dreadfully heavy and she is not able to lift it from the floor without assistance.

Zenaida probably reached Lagunitas yesterday and will have the dirty work in the house to do by herself, as her husband had to go to some conferences as soon as they arrived in San Francisco and wasn't able to go with her to Lagunitas, and I fear will not be able to go there at all. His work is laid out from this end of the line and he has only two weeks to cover the state--which I think preposterous.

We expect to leave on Monday the 17th and hope to reach Lagunitas on Friday the 21st. After these tribulations are over, Elizabeth will have a good chance to rest up and enjoy the climate.

Sorry you can't go with us to California this year. This everlasting putting it off is bad for all of us.

With love to you all.

June 14, 1929

Dear Lyman:

Glad to hear from you but sorry to know that you have had all the troubles and suffering with your sinuses, and so on, that Floddie told us about last week. I had no idea that you were having so many afflictions in addition to that of the JBM Estate. However there is so consolation in the fact that from now on you are likely to be free from such pesterments and the chances are that you will be in better health than for many years past.

Elizabeth is doing as well as could be expected. She gets out of bed (but not without assistance) and walks with crutches into the library and back several times a day but is always pretty tired afterward. Her plaster



Oct. 4, 1929

Crocker First National Bank,  
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Sirs:

Kindly send to Washington the \$1000 Southern Calif.  
Edison Gen 5s of 1939, and the 40 shs Pacific Gas & El 5 $\frac{1}{2}$  Pref  
which I purchased from you on August 9 last, and oblige.

Please send these either by express, or by Registered  
Bankers Insurance, addressed:

Dr C. Hart Merriam, care Nat. Metropolitan Bank  
Washington, D.C.

Very truly yours,

C. Hart Merriam -



Dec. 23, 1929

Dear Doctor Grosvenor:

Many thanks for another opportunity to delight a number of friends with the interesting books of the National Geographic Society. They are always appreciated, especially at Christmas time.

I have written addresses in the blank sent me, and am enclosing the same, along with my personal cards.

Very truly yours

Dr. Gilbert Grosvenor  
President, National  
Geographic Society



See also ff. 281-284

June 3, 1930

Pruitt & Zimmerman  
2438 18th Street  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sirs:

Your bill of \$132.19 for repairing my roof has just arrived. To say the least, I am appalled at the monstrosity of the charge and feel that you must have made an error in computing the amount.

I shall be obliged therefore if you will give me an itemized statement, with the date and charge of each item.

*C. Hardy Zimmerman*



















January 16, 1931

Mr. Tunis F. Collier  
1109 20th Street  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Sir:

This morning I received from your office by phone the information that the price of the two sets of iron window bars which were omitted amounted to \$12.00. This, together with the \$4.00 allowed for the kitchen chain drop light furnished by me, makes \$16.00 to be deducted from the corrected account.

The only item changed in your bill of January 5 is the one for repairing of plaster in basement, which is corrected from \$30.00 to \$22.71--thus reducing the bill from \$606.00 to \$598.71.

To this I have added the iron <sup>wire</sup> guard on kitchen door, \$10.00, making the total of the bill \$608.71.

Deducting from this the two items above mentioned (iron bar guards \$12.00, kitchen drop light \$4.00) brings the bill to \$592.71.

Deducting the \$200.00 paid you on December 12 leaves a balance of \$392.71 due you. For this amount my check on the National Metropolitan Bank is herewith enclosed. If this is not correct, kindly inform me at once. Please send receipt.

With best wishes,

Very truly yours,

*E. J. Murison*



January 19, 1931

Mr. H. L. Gordon  
827 Longfellow Street  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Thanks for your estimate of January 12 for painting the outside of my residence.

I hereby accept your offer to attend to the puttying of windows and paint the front of the house, as mentioned, for \$97.00, with the proviso that you will protect the <sup>(window glass,</sup> steps and front from spattering with paint and will clean off any paint that may remain where it doesn't belong on completion of the job.

The painting of the sides of the house I will not undertake at present.

Very truly yours,

C. Hart Murrian



See also p. 274.

March 5, 1931

Pruitt & Zimmerman, Inc.  
2438 18th Street  
Washington, D. C.

Mr. H. E. Pruitt

Dear Sir:

Referring to your letter dated February 27, 1931, would say that the non-payment of your bill for work done on the roof of my house, 1919 16th Street, the latter part of last May is not an inadvertence.

I had asked you to send a man to repair the gutter on the roof of the bay window. The following morning when I went out I found a long ladder against the front of the house, and your workman and a colored man on top. I had not asked for anyone to go up on the main roof and was not aware that any work there was needed. However, your man wanted to show me some things he found there that needed attention, so I went up. He pointed out four small cylindrical electric batteries in the gutter, where apparently they had been thrown from the roof of the adjoining apartment house. He said that seven of the roof slates had been broken, apparently hit by these batteries, and asked if he should replace them. I told him yes. He seemed fascinated with this top roof and continued to go there for a couple of days, which I was unable to understand. I asked why he didn't mend the gutter over the bay window, which was

Mr. H. E. P.

the only thing I had asked for. He replied that he was going to do this.

After he had worked around for three or four days I went up on the bay window roof to see what was the matter, and found to my disgust that he had attempted to remove the iron railing, cutting off the screws that held it down in front and was trying to pull the ends out from the brick work where they were firmly attached--all of which was not only unnecessary but a positive detriment to the house.

In reply to my inquiry as to why on earth he was doing this, he said it would be easier to put the tin under the railing. I asked why he wanted to put the tin under the railing, inasmuch as on previous occasions when the gutter had been repaired the work had been limited to the gutter and was quickly done. He then admitted that he wanted to put a new roof over the whole of the bay window [in spite of the fact that he could show no defect in the present roof]. I strongly objected, so he went ahead and finished the job but still extended the new tin up over the lower part of the roof, which certainly was wholly unnecessary.

He then called my attention to a broken downspout on the Caroline Street side of the house. This piece I asked him to replace, which he did.

When I asked you to send a man to repair the gutter



Mr. H. E. P.

over the bay window I supposed the job would cost from \$10. to \$15. Instead of this, you sent me a bill for \$132.19. This had the appearance of either a gross error or a deliberate attempt at robbery.

On receipt of this bill, on June 3rd, I expressed my amazement at the monstrosity of the charge and asked for an itemized statement. After laboring on this for three weeks you sent an attempt at a statement which you may have thought would bolster up the original bill, but which I reject.

For the past sixty years it has been my practice to pay honest bills within a few days of the date of receipt, a practice which I still adhere to. I sometimes submit to a moderate imposition but in this case the charge is so obviously exorbitant and unjust that I cannot for a moment consider paying it.

Leaving for a moment the charge for work which was not asked for by me, I would like to inquire if \$19.20 a day is not a lot of money to pay a mechanic--I certainly would enjoy receiving a salary of this magnitude. And also, how about \$9.60 a day for a colored laborer acting as helper and who, as a matter of fact, was here at intervals--not by any means during the whole time the mechanic was at work. I would also like to know why I am charged for fifty slates when the workman himself told me that the number needing replacement was seven. And might I inquire why a huge ladder was sent

Mr. H. E. P.

and men put on the roof of my house when I had asked only for the repair of a gutter over the bay window, which was readily accessible from the inside.

It was obvious from the first that your man was in search of a job, hunting high and low for something more to do, and killing time in a most unreasonable way.

*C. H. American*



Jan. 12, 1932

Dear Mrs Law:

Mrs Merriam and I are wondering if you would like to be my assistant in California this year.

I expect to go to Death Valley again in March, and to work in several other places in the desert country before it gets too hot, and then return to Lagunitas, which as always is my headquarters during the months we are in California.

I should be glad to give you one hundred dollars a month plus traveling expenses when in the field.

With best wishes from us both,

Very truly yours,

C. Hart Merriam

Mrs J. Eugene Law  
Altadena, Calif.



Reply to IT: AD: R2211  
Account 613485

Mr A.J. Trageser  
Internal Revenue Service  
Baltimore, Maryland

Jan 7, 1933

Replying to your inquiry of December 13, 1932:

The annual figuring of these Tax schedules has been to me a tedious and perplexing job. I am 78 years old and have never had experience in this sort of business. For seven months prior to your inquiry I was engaged in fieldwork in California, Nevada, Arizona, Utah, and Idaho, in continuation of investigations carried on by me for the past forty years.

Since receipt of your inquiry one of my sons-in-law (H.D. Abbot of Cambridge, Mass) has worked for several days on my accounts and Bank deposit books and has made the following corrections in my income tax return for 1931: Some income from bonds without tax-free covenant and some stock dividends were erroneously included in the total of \$742.50 given by me on line 3, which should read 587.50; item 2 should read \$700 instead of 566; and the items on back of return, (a) obligations of states, int. recd. 167.60; obligations of United States 212.50. Also, dividends from domestic corporations \$271.

Kindly advise if further action on my part is desired,

Respectfully,



Mr. A. J. Trageser  
Internal Revenue Service  
Baltimore, Maryland

January 18, 1933

Dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of the 14th instant, would say that I have again gone over the matter of my Income Tax Return for the year 1931 and am enclosing herewith a statement showing (1) bonds on which the tax was paid at source, (2) bonds on which the tax was not paid at source, (3) interest on corporation bonds, and (4) mortgage interest received.

The slight discrepancies between this statement and that submitted a few days ago appear to be due to the circumstance that in the former the interest stated was the amount actually received during the calendar year; while in the present case the interest due and received for the year is given without regard to slight overlappings in dates of payment.

Furthermore, consulting my bank passbook I find that the final interest payment (\$45) on Great Western Power--the bond having been called--was made in March 1931, so I have added this to the 1931 Tax Return making the interest paid at source \$632.50 instead of \$587.50.

What is the use of wasting valuable time in filling out all these ownership certificates for coupon deposits every month, as I have done without exception since the beginning of these Returns twenty years ago, if they do not reach your office--thus putting the holder to the time-killing labor of making out a subsequent statement?

Respectfully,

C. Hart Merriam

1931 Date for Bonds owned by C. Hart Merriam (Tax paid at source)

Name	Series	Int dates	Int recd	Amt	Descr
C M & St P	4s 1939	Jan & Jul	40	1 m	Series A gen 4s
Conn Ry & Ltg	4½ 1951	"	45	1 m	
Ill Cent	1st 3½ 1953	"	35	1 m	Louisville Div. 1st 3½
So Ry	5s 1994	"	50	1 m	
U P	4s 1947	"	40	1 m	
So Cal Eds	5s 1929	"	50	1 m	
Consol Ry	4s 1954	"	40	1 m	
So Cal Gas	4½ 1961	Mar & Sept	45	1 m	
NY NH & H	3½ 1954	Apr & Oct	70	2 m	Deb. 3
Del & Hud	4s 1943	May & Nov	40	1 m	
Vgn Ry	5s 1962	"	25	\$500	Ser. A
Wsh Ry & El	4s 1951	Jun & Dec	40	1 m	
P G & E	6s 1941	"	60	1 m	Ser. D
Gt. Wstn. Pr.	6s 1949		45	1 m	Called Dec. 1930

1931

Tax NOT paid at source

Name	Series	Int dates	Int recd	Amt
C B & Q (Ill. Div)	3½s 1949	Jan & Jul	70	2 m
C B & Q	gen 4s 1958	Mar & Sept	80	2 m
NY NH & H	Deb 4s 1936	May & Nov	40	1 m

Corporation Bonds

Buffalo, N.Y	4s 1960	Jan & Jul	40	1 m
New York City	4 1/4s 1960	Mar & Sept	127 50	3 m

From  
C. Hart Merriam, 1919 16th St.  
Washington, D.C., Jan. 18, 1932.



Dec. 31, 1933

Mrs Zenaida M. Talbot  
Berkeley, California

Dear Zenaida:

Owing to the fallibility of Human Memory,  
it seems desirable to put the following state-  
ment in writing:

All moneys, bonds or other securities that  
I have conveyed to you during the past year are  
a present--not a loan--and therefore no interest  
is to be paid me or my estate thereon.

But the amount <sup>dollars</sup> (5,000), while not to be re-  
paid to me, should be deducted, after my death,  
from your share of my estate.

C. Harb Merriam



April 15, 1935

Fidelity Storage Company  
U Street  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sirs:

Please hold my three insured packages,  
addressed to C. Hart Merriam, San Rafael, California,  
until notified by me as usual.

When notified, ship charges collect, as usual.

Very truly yours,

*C. Hart Merriam*

May 10, 1937

Dear Mr. Pinchot:

It would give me much pleasure if my  
daughter Dorothy with her husband, Henry D.  
Abbot, and daughter Beth could be included in  
Mrs. Pinchot's 'At Home' on Monday the 17th  
for the great treat you are going to give us.

Henry Abbot is Assistant Chief of the  
Soil Conservation Service under Mr. Bennett.

Their address is 2319 Tracy Place.

Doubtless you have already arranged for  
a full house. If so forget this.

Yours.

*He said then invitations and they came -*



June 3, 1937

Hon. Gifford Pinchot  
1615 Rhode Island Avenue  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Pinchot:

Good for you, and good that you have the same old vim and the same freedom from restraint in pitching into people and projects that are not only against good sense but also distinctly against the interests of the nation.

Your attack on the Brownlow Report (American Forests for June) hits the nail exactly on the head and is something for every sane minded well wisher to be thankful for. Congratulations.

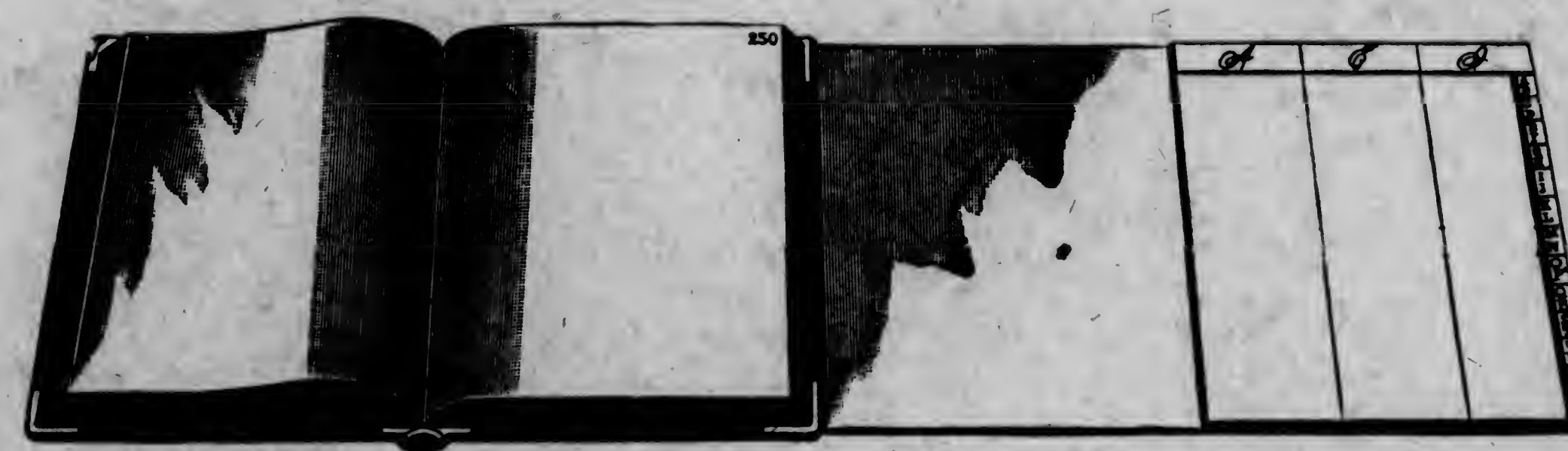
Mrs. Merriam and I are starting for California today. In case your wanderings take you to the coast, drop in and see us among the redwoods of Lagunitas.

Remembering with pleasure our recent entertaining evening with the South Sea Expedition pictures at your home, and with best regards to Mrs. Pinchot,

As ever yours,



# THE EMPIRE EXTENSION INDEX.



This cut shows the open Book and Index.

—◆◆◆◆◆—

This index has many valuable features; one of which is, that while the left hand is used to turn the leaves of the book, the right hand is free to manipulate the index leaves and enter the names without laying aside the pen or pencil.



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