Letter from O. G. Hertzog to B. R. Colson

O. G. Hertzog

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B. P. Colson
Gainesville Fla.

Dear B. P. Colson,

Your esteemed favor reached us some ten days since and I have thought much over the problem. I entirely agree with you as to the value and cheapness of the property and its desirability and if the purchase of the property at four hundred dollars, is all that was involved I would include you my check for the amount today. The additional expense of building a four room cottage and outfit for cultivating the land and other necessary expenses would involve at least six hundred dollars of additional expense. I have not yet been able to close out the property in which they have an equity that would put them on their feet. For me to advance sufficient to set these of would involve my working capital and I can close out a lot that I have now decided to sell. If the conditions have not been friendly to the ready sale even of a good property, everybody lacked bread and stores. I can see no other good reason for the present condition of the money market in this country as business is generally prosperous in all these regions and the farmers never had finer crops. Still people complain of scarcity of ready money. I never go in debt for anything and this habit may be at the bottom of my hesitancy in buying this property and putting a house on it. With a view of buying I had they tenants put out an extra large crop of cabbages, something over forty acres. The seed and fertilizer cost me a good large sum but in all our years of special farming we were never struck with such dissipations. Our much land was very dry from lack of rain for two months and the storms blew out more than half the crop. We redowed fifteen acres but...
The Trip or True is now working over time and we are uncertain about the outcome as we never were troubled with the true done a few in any and the crop was too near maturing the trust by them under these conditions I have thought it best to wait till about the first of next year if we get a crop out the market was fair I could then make the purchase and wife and I could go down and look after the building and winter there I gave up my position in the college here eight years ago as executive secretary as our children were all married and settled and we were left alone and we wanted to see the world and how the people lived on the other side of it so after two years of preparation we made the journey around the world spending nearly two years I had the honor of telling the old story of Jesus and his true one deacon I can't help many heart the message with gladness.

Even in Jerusalem I found three who heard though not proved in the heart to see something I deeply sympathize with my sister and others in heart and regret their misfortunes that have made them somewhat depressed on others but I have so many demands on me that it is safer and better to aid them from year to year by supplementing their earnings than to involve myself in debt.

I have studied the case fully of your in confidence seeing you have shown so much interest in our family situation for which we are very grateful it would not have been difficult for me to to cure for the matter were it not for the fact that I had access to the few thousand dollars of old stock and upon four years 5 years I still have once payment. I thank you for all your kindness and hoping yet to meet the case I remain with much regards to all eventually yours C.W. Keys.