

Abilene Christian University

Digital Commons @ ACU

Correspondence

Theophilus Brown Larimore Papers

6-28-1915

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

O. G. Hertzog

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.acu.edu/larimore_correspondence

Hiram O. June 28/15

B. R. Colson
Gainesville Fla.

Dear Bro. 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 dolls, is all that was involved, I would enclose 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 them up would involve my working capital unless I can close out a lot that I have now decided to sell. Conditions have not been friendly to the ready sale even of a good property, everybody seems bound to own an automobile and devote themselves to pleasure, 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 my tenants put out an extra large crop of onions, 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 disastrous windstorms. Our much land was very dry from lack of rain for two months and the storms blew out more than half the crop. We redeemed fifteen acres but

The Thrift or Louse is now working over time and we are uncertain about the outcome as we never were troubled with the Louse save a few in Aug and the crop was too near maturing to be hurt by them. Under these conditions I have thought it best to wait till about the first of Sept, and if we get a crop and 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 love on sea and land and many heard the message with gladness. Even in Jerusalem I found those who heard though not pierced in the heart as on Pentecost. I deeply sympathize with my sister and Bro. in law and regret their misfortunes that have made them somewhat dependent 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. If I were absolutely sure they could make a good living at Gainsville on their five acres and it did not involve an outlay of over a thousand dollars - I would make a desperate effort to meet the situation. I have stated the case fully to you in confidence seeing you have shown so much interest in our complex situation for which we are very grateful. It would not have been difficult for me to to care for the matter were it not for the fact that I had addressed to me four thousand dollars of special taxes and four years to run. I still have one payment. Thanking you for all your kindness and hoping yet to meet the case I remain with kind regards to all cordially yours O. H. H. 3/91