

Chicago Ill Sept 16

87

Mr Gates

Dear friend

you told me if I had any  
trouble about my payments  
to let you know

Mr Powell is building and  
the builder want some money  
and he has come to me  
if you know anyone here  
that would take the mortgage  
and note the note is \$400  
at 7% cent interest and hold  
the same for a year or 2 years  
untill I could pay it  
if I take the money from the  
~~holder~~ real estate loans I  
shall have to pay 100 Dollars  
and I feel unable to do that  
if I can get it in any other  
way.

I hope you will pardon me  
for asking you my property  
has is valued at 5000 £  
and increasing in value  
all the time

Hoping you are well  
also Alberta I will  
write to her soon.

I remain your friend

E. James

26 Pearl St

Chicago Ill

Chicago Ill

Dear Friend

Mr Gates

I hope you will not think me ungrateful in not answering your very kind letter before. But I have had to move up stairs to live as that way I get 5 Dollars a month more rent and I had to do all the cleaning of both places myself as I could not hire help and before I was through I was took sick and do not feel well yet I suppose I overtaxed my strength I am glad that you know all but please do not think that Elmina is less dear to me

2  
for if I had a been able to revise  
her as I wished I should never  
have parted with her for the  
dear Child is verry dear to me  
I wish I could join her with  
your people and perhaps the  
time will come when I can  
but I have verry serious  
duties in the World yet  
one is a Old Mother the  
other a young sister that  
I should have to keep a home  
for should my dear Mother  
be taken from us  
and I have faully promised  
my Mother to do so untill  
my sister is settled in life  
then I shall be free

You was so kind about  
my trouble about my  
flaments on the House  
I have not done any thing

yet the company is quite  
 willing to lend me the 1000 \$  
 need to clear it up  
 But the Partee Bought of  
 is not in a hurry for the  
 money as the Brick layers  
 & Hoop Carriers & Trades has  
 preventec him from Building  
 and he does not want to settle  
 up it makes me a little nervous  
 because the time was up on  
 the first of May and sometimes  
 I think he may fore close I suppose  
 he would have to give me notice  
 of it the company will make  
 it 3 years at 7% Cent but I  
 am no aficion of Real-Estate  
 Men in this City  
 of course all I have I shall  
 give to obbissie when I  
 can through with it of course  
 I shall want it as long as I live



[4]

for a home unless I join Elmina  
But I shall be so glad when I can  
make it - I wait - to Elmina  
so I shall know that she has some  
thing for herself for she has no  
one but me.

Dear Sir I think you may  
keep this letter in case of  
any thing happening to me  
for I get strange fears some-  
times and I know you will  
do what is wright for Elmina  
dear Sir I thought that way  
2 months would be enough  
to hear from her but I would  
like to hear oftener as I think  
of her a good deal.

I should like to see your people  
I hear how sweet and good they  
are and if it would be allowed I  
should like to visit them some  
times hoping you will I remain

E Grimes 26 Pearce St

Boston Dec<sup>r</sup> 30

Mr B Gates.

Dear Sir

As has ben some  
time since I have heard from you  
I am thinking a few lines would <sup>not</sup> be  
out of place. I would much rather  
spend a few leisure moments in  
conversation with you as I would  
like to talk on business.

I am thinking of making some  
change in my present situation its  
possible you may know something  
how I am situated. as regards this  
homestead, I have no interest except  
that ~~which~~ which my wife claims  
and that is only on life interest. The  
Son Everett of whom you are acquainted  
and his sister are both of age  
on she will be in May.

The Ivesum will be married soon  
 Everett is with me and now as he  
 grows older feels as though he would  
 prefer <sup>to</sup> manage his own property  
 but he will find there is something  
 yet to learn my idea in writing to  
 you was simply this I am not rich  
 though my wife & myself have some  
 money but I feel willing and would  
 rather have a business than to be  
 idle, a year ago you said something  
 to me about coming down with you  
 and should have done so if there  
 had ben an opportunity.

So I thought it was possible  
 you might know of some position  
 with your acquaintances in business  
 matters where I might be a  
 better situated than at the present  
 could I meet you I might explain  
 some matter for my reason for making  
 this request but feeling certain  
 that I am writing to a tried friend



I do not hesitate to express something  
 how I feel, My wife was very much  
 pleased with her visit and often speaks  
 of the tastes how kind & good they  
 were and sends her kind regards  
 to all. I am sorry that Everett displeased  
 you but I know his faults. He does  
 not say much but I learned that he  
 did not do as he should but in sending  
 him to you I was satisfied he would  
 prove steady and honest.

So with these few lines I think  
 they will reach you kindly and  
 should you know of something I  
 will prove as faithful as required  
 wishing you a happy Christmas  
 and my best regards to those  
 I once knew will close

Yours truly  
 Charles J. Gregg

Amherst Station N. Y. C.,

May 26<sup>th</sup> 1889

My Dear Brother Benjamin

yours of the 22<sup>d</sup> - is

received & I was (as I always am)  
very much pleased to hear from you.  
I am pleased to tell you I am well,  
I have thought of you many, many  
times since I wrote you last but  
knowing you had so many cares  
on your mind I thought I would  
<sup>not</sup> trouble you more than need be.  
I should be pleased to meet  
you in Boston if I could but  
I have made appointments for every  
day in June with the exception  
of Tuesday June 4<sup>th</sup> & Thursday June  
6<sup>th</sup> and <sup>as</sup> it may not be convenient  
to you to be in Boston on either of  
those days I cannot tell what to do

If however you should find it convenient with your business to be in Boston on either of those days I could meet you at the Quincy House at 2 P.M., and could stay over night if I wished but must be somewhere else the next day or Job Green would fail to keep his word;

I want to visit Mount Lebanon as soon as I can, as I want to see my many friends there. please remember me to all and tell them I am just as green as ever & my health is very good. when you send to me please do so by letter as that is the only way to get me word

Believe me as ever your truly

Job W Green  
Amherst Station  
N. H.

Excuse all faults

P.S.,

Should it happen that you ~~you~~  
would be in Boston the 4<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup>  
of June let me know it as soon  
as you can

J. M. Green

any when else would suit me  
when to meet you as well as  
the family house if you say when

Watersford Nov 25<sup>th</sup> 1889

Friend Benjamin Gates

Yours of the 13<sup>th</sup> came to hand, and its contents have made us very sorrowful. Believe me it was entirely through ignorance and not wilful carelessness that we allowed Willie to come to you while his sister was sick.

Being too young to remember when I had the measles and never being with one afflicted with them before I really did not know the danger of his leaving home until it was too late and then I hoped you would put him ~~on~~ apart from the others until all danger



was over. Sooner would we have had him lose a year with you than carry such a disease among you.

Our daughter is entirely well of the measles. But she has since caught a cold that still clings to her. so we have decided not to send her this winter. We will either bring her early in the summer or Mrs Burrell will when she visits Rosie. Emily daily wishes she was there with her brother and we are sorry she was prevented from going with him.

How is William getting along. I searched your letter for some word of him but could find none, and was sorely disappointed.

This coming has caused you so much sorrow and anxiety. I hope each year he spends with you will bear a better record than its predecessor. He begged so hard to go and was very much afraid he might have the measles and be prevented.

We thank you for your kind offer to meet our daughter.

Please give our love to William and tell him we are well and anxious to know how he is getting along.

hope he is happy and a good boy.

Yours Respectfully  
Ellen W. Farber

Nov 27<sup>th</sup> 1889.

Friend

Benjamin Gates

{ Yours of the  
25<sup>th</sup> is received and will  
hasten to answer hoping the  
answer may reach you in  
time to not put you to  
any inconvenience. We  
wrote you a few days ago  
to Mr. Lebanon telling you  
that although our daugh-  
ter is entirely well of the  
measles. She has since  
caught a cold that clings  
to her. and we have decided  
to wait a few months until  
there is an entire absence

of any sickness.  
It is a great disappointment  
to her. she is so anxious  
to be with her brother.

Please tell him for us  
to be patient. the time will  
soon pass.

Your Friend  
Wm. Harper.