

Office of
NASHVILLE BOOK CO.
Edgefield, Tenn.

Telephone 4063

February 15, 1907.

H. B. Landis,

Chico, California.

Dear Brother:--

I have been trying for several days to come at some plan of settlement in regard to the property bought from you. At first I felt like making every reasonable effort to retain the property. It is a good home, and we have enjoyed it. But as I study the situation, I do not feel inclined to take the responsibility of raising the money in the time given in your "ultimatum."

The fact is I have had a very difficult experience with my finances during the past two years, and I have concluded that I shall not go into anything more until I know positively what I can do. I have further determined that I shall not cripple myself so that I shall be delayed in bringing out my books. I feel that that is the most important work I have before me at the present time.

Now, I have had the money ready to meet all paper that was due and every obligation against me that was due, and whatever the circumstances or conditions were I should have met these obligations, provided that they did not entail the bringing in of the other obligations which are not yet due. I have interviewed the cashier of the bank at Nashville, and talked the matter with him from every standpoint.

I wanted to keep the place and make it my permanent home, but yesterday I came to the opposite conclusion. I made propositions to you to do everything that I felt I could do under the circumstances, but these were not satisfactory to you. I have a copy of a letter from you written to my brother in which you say, "So we have concluded perhaps it would be better for him to give it up, and then we could sell

*Shall I find
some one who will
put in a crop of
corn on the house
please for you on
shares?*

H.B.L. -2-

it to some one that can pay. We have sent the notes back to Nashville, and unless he can give us some assurance of his reliability, we will give him his notes back and take the place."

My wife and I have considered the matter carefully and have decided to treat the matter in that way. We want to make it just as easy for you as we can, and so will arrange it so that there will not be the necessity of a sale of the property at auction; and if you turn over the notes, we will deed the place back to you. Then you can do just what you suggested in your letter of January 2 written to my brother.

Now I have no desire to find fault or criticise, but will simply say that I was not always able to meet my obligations with you promptly. *Was not able to get the money until recently.* This has proved unsatisfactory to you, and you have made conditions to me which I cannot see my way clear to accept. Neither am I willing to involve my brother and mother in this matter, for they both have all the financial load that they can carry in mother's work.

I realize that the loss will be quite heavy to me on account of the improvements made upon the house, etc., but I will cheerfully bear this, and it will make it easier for you to sell to some other party that will probably be more satisfactory than myself.

There is one thing I would suggest, and that is that I be allowed to remain in the house until it is really required by new parties who might purchase. For a few months I will be willing to pay interest on the value of the property for the privilege of remaining until my other arrangements are completed. I desire to say that my decision is settled and unchangeable not to attempt now to hold the property.

Yours very truly,

J. H. White