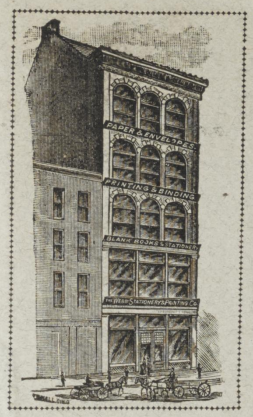

E. C. Evans. Private letters. July 1863 to Dec 31st 1864.



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THE EXCELSIOR COPYING TANK is the **MOST PERFECT DEVICE** for copying letters ever made. Write for descriptive circular.

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Letterbook No. 2-1

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July 5th 95

F. A. Hyne Esq Agent
Covington, Ky.
Dear Sir;

Probably you had better accept the offer of the Mission Sunday School for 3rd Street house at $11.00 per month - Make the repairs as cheap as possible and let me know how much they will cost -

Yours truly;
E. C. Means Agent

July 13th 95

H.G. Merry Esq G.M.
Low Moor. Va
Dear Sir;

From enclosed copy of Covington burdens and limestone obtained from weekly report, unless the ores are very irregular in mixture from Dolly Ann Washer I am inclined to draw the conclusion that the burden is changed too often. As in furnace A I would advise that furnace C be allowed to make silvery iron before adding burden whenever furnace is on grade. And if she slips and loses grade would not change burden but would try to catch grade by slacking engines and increasing heats in stoves. Take a burden say of 2050 Stack and 4100 D.A. & I.M. and work coke and limestone to suit it. You can soon tell whether it can be fluxed without complete separation at washer.

Yours truly: E. C. Means Prest

95

Covington Furnace Burdens

Total Ore.	Limestone.	Stack.	D.A. & I.M.	
5700	2200	1900	3800	1 to 2
6000	{2700, 2600, 2400}	2000	4000	"
6150	{2700, 2500}	2050	4100	"
6300	{2500, 2600}	2100	4200	"
6450	2600	2150	4300	"
6600	2800	2200	4400	"
6000	{2520, 2700}	3000	3000	1 to 1
6300	2800	3150	3150	"
6000	{2600, 2100, 2300, 2400}	1000	5000	1 to 5
6300	2200	1050	5250	"

Coke constant at 4200 lbs.

E. C. MEANS,

July 22nd 95

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Replying to your letter 15th inst—

We have sent the key to Mr Gaige and asked him to send you the books— Which we trust will reach you safely—

I expect to go to Cincinnati the first of next month and will then get your will and bring it here— So that it will be convenient.

Mrs. Wood and Miss Lindsey of Frankfort are visiting Ruby and Ned Seaton came in yesterday for a few days stay with friends and relatives— So Bath Ave visits about considerably after sun goes down and it is cool enough to dress—

The Baby is good and jolly as ever and takes quite an interest in her visitor

The A.C.&I borrowed $4000.00 from you last week and today I send Wm Means $80.00 as per his request to you—

E. C. MEANS

July 22nd 95

William Means Esq
Grand Ave Hotel— Asbury Park, N.J.—

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find New York Exchange, 4th National Bank for Eighty Dollars ($80.00) on account Miss Margaret A. Means as per your request to her 19th inst

Please acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours truly,

E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

E. C. MEANS.

M. A. M. #2

Lizzie and Charley are still at home. The latters new bicycle has come and he is delighted with it as it only weighs 17 lbs.
Father is well and goes about town quite a good deal.
Dr. Wade was out calling on Miss Strouhe of Augusta, who is visiting Rose last evening.
Today I go with Mr Apple of the Shops and Heron of the Mines to see some mines on New River and Kanawha.
With Cover
Affectionately your nephew
E. C. Means

E. C. MEANS.

July 25th 95

F. A. Laidley Esq Prest
Cincinnati O
Dear Sir:

Yours 20th inst came during my absence from home. Considering the fact that a double liability exists for the share holders in an Ohio Corporation I am still unwilling to add to mine in the Big Sandy Packet Co. My interest is small and if it is to carry any liability in addition I would prefer to step down and out. I believe Father feels as I do and would decline to sign the guarantee if requested to do so. While we both have faith in the ultimate prosperity of the Packet Co we do not care at present to guarantee its paper.
Am glad to note a 3 foot rise today
Yours truly:
E. C. Means

5

July 29th '95

E. B. Willard Esq Prest
Hanging Rock O

Dear Sir:

By wire yesterday we learned of the death of James Means at Lawrence Kans. Funeral at Ironton either Tuesday or Wednesday. They leave Kansas City today with body and we think should reach Ironton Tuesday noon.

When down in Alabama last month Mr. Merry Manager at Low Moor found furnaces running on blast pressure of 10 and 12 lbs with large outputs of pig. Do you think it would be beneficial to send Mr. Daty down there to see how far such practice would be applicable at Hanging Rock? With a profit in iron as now a large output would be well provided grade is not sacrificed too much.

Yours truly: E. C. Means

Low Moor will add to boiler capacity in order to try the higher blast pressure. Cannot keep up steam at present.

E. C. MEANS. E. C. MEANS.

July 29th 95

H.S. Merry Esq. M.
Law Moor
Dear Sir:

If when on your trip to Kosher you learned the amount asked for the rolling mill please write me at your earliest convience about it — Mr. Kelly has gone before the board of trade here and asked for free site, bonus and free taxes for 5 years — In connection with the free site I wish to protect the land company of which I am a director and would like to know the amount of land occupied by mill — Have no objections to his getting all he can from the town in free taxes, and bonus contributions but with full knowledge would not allow Land Co. to be imposed upon — Kindly me generally what you know about it —

H.S. M #2

Am pleased to see way Coming Tee worked as per last report. And hope she did better last week.

Do not make McElevain change his burden often and watch the time if you want to improve the grade. I had expected to see some Low Moor ore on his burden but presume the change of tuyeres was so beneficial that you concluded to wait longer — Have you placed the additional draught stack yet?

The past week I spent one day at Thurmond to see Electric haulage and found working well there — The conditions however are not the same as here. At Campbells Creek above Charleston, 5 miles, the conditions were more like ours and although not in operation, from what I could learn, think time has not come to change from mules for economy here —

With regards to all — Yours Etc — E. C. Means

Aug 2nd 95

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Your letter of 31st ult received—

Find enclosed Newyork draft on 4th Natl Bank for $500— (Five hundred Dollars) as you request—

I was under the impression that Father had written to you about the death of James Means but learned last evening that he had not. He died at Lawrence Kans last Sunday morning or Saturday night and was buried at Dowton Wednesday— Both of his boys were with him and came to burial. His wife also came from Marietta and met the boys at Dowton— The boys were here yesterday with Miss Jennie Clark and will probably come up again— Mr. Clark told me that Jim only weighed 90 lbs at last and although Hugh said the death was sudden that others would not have considered it so—

M. & M. # 2

We received word late Sunday evening and expected the burial to be Tuesday too early for you to reach Dowton if you had desired to attend— Charley came back from Mt Clements Mich. but had an attack of hives and could not go down with us—

C. C. Clarke, Charles Campbell, Julius Anderson, Tom Adams, Harry & I acted as pall bearers— The short service was in the little Chapel at Cemetary— Father, Rose, Hildreth, Bessie & Will went down with us from here and about 30 from Dowton were present— The funeral ~~started~~ started from Clarke's where Mrs. Means and boys were staying—

Father, Rose, Hildreth, Bessie and 3 youngest children start for Springs this afternoon— Will, Tom, Harry & Charley will have large homes and small families for a few weeks— Baby sends love in which Ruby & I join—

Your affectionate nephew; E. C. Means—

E. C. MEANS

Aug 9th 95

H. G. Merry Esq G.M.
Low Moor Va
Dear Sir:

Am very much obliged to you for your trouble in securing the information concerning the mill at Goshen and have given it to the manager of the land company who will use it to our best advantage.

Leffingwell is in Chicago visiting his children and incidentally looking for further orders from Illinois Steel Co for fire brick. He is making and shipping a hearth & bosh for the Watts Steel & Iron Co of Middlesboro. Also has an offer for 600.000 brick for Foote Stoves but wants higher price than offered. Has until 15th to accept if he does not make sales elsewhere to cover capacity.

Our furnace here, on Bessemer, is not flooding the cast house as expected but drags along at 500 tons per week. It will not standing blowing hard.

E. C. MEANS

H.G. M #2

Probably has too flat a bosh for Bessemer. Has 5 foot bell, 8 ft stock line, 14 ft bosh 1 ft high, 8 ft hearth and 60 total height. Made very good silvery iron when first put in but had become irregular and Col Putnam concluded to wear it out on Bessemer before relining.

Hanging Rock furnace has again been able to secure a supply of coke from Pocohontas and is running. Finding a ready sale for No 2 Foundry. Have heard nothing from Mr. Low as to date of Aug. meeting. Has he written you about it?

With regards to Mrs Merry
Yours truly:
E. C. Means Prest

Aug 9th 95

E. B. Willard Esq Pres
Hanging Rock, O
Dear Sir:

Since you last started I have received no weekly reports will you kindly have office force forward them as heretofore —

With present prices for iron, one feels like seeing a larger output, if grade can be maintained, with that end in view I suggested to Mr. Hoyt the putting in of a smaller bell — Showing him the Low Moor record where such a course enabled them to reduce fuel and increase output with greater regularity of grade — In order to get full use of a flat bosh it is necessary to charge furnace so that lumps will be scattered more than from a large bell. The large bell causes lumps to roll to centre of furnace and the blast rushes through centre and not sufficiently at sides. Yours Etc E. C. Means

Aug 17th 95

E. A. Law Esq Treas
81 Burling Slip New York
Dear Sir:

Your notice of directors meeting for 28th inst duly received —
I expect to be present then.
The iron situation here may be summed up as follows: Bessemer has advanced $3.00 to $3.50 per ton, Strong Foundries about $2.00 per ton while Silvery and High Silicons have only advanced 50¢ per ton.

From reports I see that Covington furnace is doing better but it now looks as if it was not properly lined and is not same shape inside as Low Moor furnace and moreover no one seems to know how it was lined.

Hope demand for iron will continue and that '95 will show better returns for furnaces than '94 —

With regards. Yours respectfully:
E. C. Means Pres

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Aug 10th 95

T. A. Hynes Esq Agent
Covington Ky

Dear Sir:

It has been some time since I have heard from you— please send me statement of your collections and account. Would like to hear from you soon after the 1st of each month.

Yours truly:

E. C. Means Agent

Aug 21st 95

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Ruby went to Cincinnati with me yesterday and is immensely elated over your kindness to her. She told me several times "I feel people are too good to me and I don't deserve it." "Do you really think we ought to accept Aunt Maggies invitation?" I tell her that I know you were always pleased to do things which afforded pleasure to the beneficiary and that she could trust your invitation to be meant for acceptance, if she would have courage enough to make such a visit as proposed, with a baby to care for. And that you would see we fully appreciated your kindness and remembrance of us.

I cannot express my own feelings but simply hope that in some way we may prove how truely we appreciate your invitation.

#2

While securing accommodations in sleeper at Cincinnati for Monday next I concluded to try for cheaper rates than from here. So I bought tickets for Ruby & Mary, with privelege of stop over at Ashland until Monday, for the Boston excursion for $21.00 each for the round trip. The coupons for the trip from Newyork to Boston & ret. need not be used and still a saving of enough to pay for the drawing room on sleeper was effected - $14.00

We expect to surprise Father & Rose when they get on the train at Covington.

I brought your Will home and will put in Fathers box in Bank to which he & I only have keys.

Mr. Anderson was on the train both ways yesterday and I told him it would be here for you.

With much love and a kiss from the baby who can almost say Auntie

Your affectionate nephew: E. C. Ives

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Aug 21st 95

H.G. Merry Esq G.M.
Low Moor, Va -
Dear Sir:

On train going to Cincinnati yesterday I met E. J. Bird Jr. He said he had written to you but I will write what he told me - Covington Furnace has 12 ft 6 in stock line bosh 18 ft diam. 24 ft high. hearth 10 ft diam - He thought that a furnace going from silvery or No 1 to mottled & white without slipping was not burdened sufficiently and should have more burden added - Especially so if gas was heavy and heat could not be maintained on stoves - The Elder Crowther does not agree with Bird but thinks a bell should be ½ diam of stock line - From your results at Low Moor, as well as Skeldings I believe present Covington Fce should have a 6 ft bell - and if it can be done would like to see a small bell tried -

H.G. M #2

Expect to leave here on No 2 Monday going direct to New York and will spend a week or two at the sea shore. If you and Mrs. Merry decide to go to any of the Long Island resorts perhaps we can arrange to visit the same one -

Father, Rose & Hildreth will go on same train from Covington - I presume you will go by water. For Mrs. Merry you may be able to buy a round trip excursion ticket Clifton Forge to Boston cheaper than round trip to New York and use it only to New York. Such is the case from here -

Mrs Means joins in regards -

Yours truly:

E. C. Means Pres

Aug 22nd 95

William Means Esq
c/o East View House - Highlands of Savesink N.J.
Dear Sir:

Enclosed find draft on 4th Nat'l Bank New York for One hundred ($100.00) Dollars on account of Miss Margaret A. Means as per your request to her 20th inst
Please acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours truly:
E. C. Means Agent for
Margaret A. Means

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.

E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.

ROBERT PEEBLES,
SECRETARY AND TREASURER

Wm W. Donaldson Esq
Baltimore
Md

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED)
Ashland, Ky., Aug 24th 1895
In reply to yours of 1st inst

After considerable inquiry I learn that an option has recently been give on Roan Mt property to parties in Chicago @ $60,000 - by the receivers - The above amount will about cover liabilities and leave nothing for shareholders - but I doubt if a sale will be effected -

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

Sept 9th 95

F. A. Hyne Esq Agent
Covington Ky
Dear Sir.

Your letter 2nd inst enclosing check for Forty one ($41.00) Dollars has been received -

Dr. Balance due from Hyne June 28th 95		$18.54
Rents reported collected since		41.00
		59.54

Cr. Hynes check 2nd Sept $41.00
Commission 10% on $41.00 rents 4.10
Bills Paid - Water rents $5.30
Wall Paper 2.76
Repairing Hydrant 1.00
Paper Hanging 1.89 10.95 $56.05
Balance due from Hyne Sept 2nd $ 3.49

You wrote that you sent a statement on August 2nd but I never received it - I suppose you have included that in this one.

The improved condition of the iron business should help your trade with the men in the mill near you - Yours truly:

E. C. Means Agent
for M. A. Means

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Sept 11th 95

E. B. Willard Esq Prest
Hanging Rock, O.
Dear Sir:

Returning your enclosures of 9th inst — I do not believe it would be worth while to present the matter of acquiring stock in Coke company to the Directors — especially the acquirement of a minority interest.

Bessemer iron has taken such a spurt [illegible] the charcoal iron to g[illegible] be plea[illegible] at pres[illegible] irons. [illegible] recentl[illegible] to pay[illegible] Our [illegible] Bessem[illegible] Fathe[illegible] will be home [illegible]

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

Return to MEANS KYLE & CO.
HANGING ROCK, Ohio,
If not delivered within 10 days

HANGING ROCK
SEP 16
O.

UNITED STATES POSTAGE
TWO 2 CENTS

Mr. E. C. Means,
Ashland, Ky.

15

Sept 11th 95

E. B. Willard Esq Prest
Hanging Rock, O.
Dear Sir:

Returning your enclosures of 9th inst — I do not believe it would be worth while to present the matter of acquiring stock in Coke company to the Directors — especially the acquirement of a minority interest.

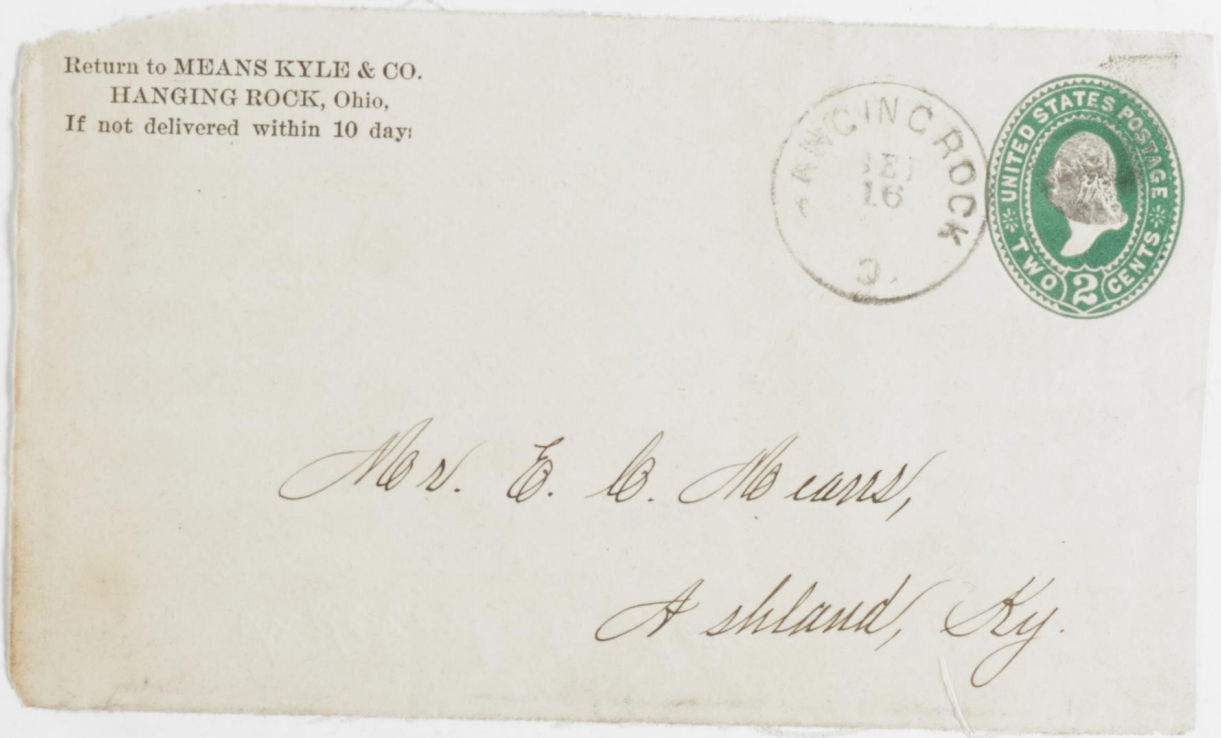
Bessemer iron has taken such a spurt that it may help the charcoal iron to get into the market — I shall be pleased to learn your quotations at present of both Hamilton & Pine Grove irons. Also the amounts shipped recently — and what loans you expect to pay off soon —

Our "A" furnace here is back on Bessemer this week and doing well. Father is East with Rose & Tom but will be home by next week —

Yours truly:

E. C. Means

Loose Item


Return to MEANS KYLE & CO.
HANGING ROCK, Ohio,
If not delivered within 10 days
HANGING ROCK
O.
UNITED STATES POSTAGE
TWO 2 CENTS
Mrs. E. B. Means,
Ashland, Ky.

Loose Item

Indexed to here —

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Sept 14th 95

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Ruby received your letter last night and delivered the messages to Mary and Harriet Evelyn both of whom received them with pleasure.

Last night we attended the lecture by Rev Barrett (Baptist minister) on Japan. He has never been there but takes great interest in learning all he can about the country and its contents. The lecture was interesting and instructive. He had toys showing house, furniture, red fox, cows, costumes etc also maps.

No doubt he would enjoy meeting you or Aunt Holly and hearing your descriptions of the country.

We have watched with much interest the newspaper reports of the yacht races and are much disappointed they were not completed to the full satisfaction of every one concerned.

We hope the Defender will cross the seas and bring another cup home.

2

Tom has made an 8% dividend with the Lee Co this year and feels well pleased with the results.

We divided $8000 each to the heirs of T. N. M. on 12th inst and took the receipt of M B. Seaton as your agent for yours. I shall wait a few days and then invest it in Government bonds for you.

We are looking for Father & Ev home to day but not having heard from them since leaving you are very uncertain of seeing them today.

I feel in a good deal better spirits and energy as the result of our visit to you and with Ruby feel that you were very kind to us and am very thankfull for such good treatment. Certainly you now owe us a visit which you must pay as soon as you can to come West. With love affectionately your nephew: E. C. Means.

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DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.

E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.

ROBERT PEEBLES, SECRETARY AND TREASURER

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED.)
Ashland, Ky., Sept 18th 1895
In reply to yours of 16th inst

E. A. Low Esq Treas
Low Moor Iron Co
New York

Dear Sir:

Have received certif No 145 for 21 shares Low Moor Stock also check $75.00 dividend — We are experimenting here on a 10% silicon Bessemer Iron so far with considerable success in manufacture but have not put on market yet —

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

Sept 21st 95

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Your letter 18th inst enclosing Low Moor Check $84.00 duly received. I enclose herewith a draft on 4th Natl Bank New York for One thousand Dollars ($1000.00) payable to your order.

The wanderers returned home in due time and good health — Although they came to a land of heat and mousquitos — neither conducive to sleep — I see by Cincinnati papers that Gertrude Means was married Wednesday to W. Alexander Julian of Cincinnati at Yellow Springs Presbyterian Church — Will watch Sunday's paper for more particulars — Baby sent you some blotters which she hopes you will find usefull — She is well and happy — Ruby is industrially working on her short clothes and will soon have a new wardrobe for the young Miss Means

With love. Your affectionate nephew
E. C. Means

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E. C. MEANS

Sept 21st 95

H.G. Merry Esq G. M.
Low Moor, Va
Dear Sir:

Your wire received announcing death of Blast 5 A — A short but latterly an excellant blast — I have just had a conversation with Mr. Richards of M. A. Hanna & Co Cleveland. He tells me the Carnegie new furnaces are to be 100 feet high — boshes 20 ft wide and hearth 14 feet wide — He says the practice is running to wider hearths and the prevailing idea is, our furnaces reduce well enough but the problem is to melt more — I told him of the change in Ece B and he said it would not help much having a wider bosh but he approved the lower boshes and the wider hearth — He has just put in a 75 ft furnace with 10 ft 8 in hearth and 16 ft boshes —

Mr. Richards came here to see Gay Putnam and his furnace on high silicon

H.G. M #2

Bessemer which experiment he pronounces a success. Gay has succeeded in getting Silicon up to 12% and Phos. down to 123% and will try next week for 15% Silicon.

Mr. Crowther leaves next week or rather Oct 1st for Youngstown O where he expects henceforth to live in peace and ~~comfort~~ comfort. He insisted on resigning on account of his age 71 yrs Gay will take charge of the furnaces under his father, with Tom Lyons as his assistant. We look for as good if not better work at furnaces — Father and Rose returned home Thursday — How are your boiler contracts progressing and have you secured a new locomotive yet?

Wishing you good luck with Blast 3 B and hoping to hear from you soon with regards to all

Yours truly:
E. C. Means Pres

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Sept 23th 95

William Means Esq
Navesink Highlands New Jersey—
Dear Sir:

Enclosed find draft on 4th National Bank New York for One hundred ($100.00) Dollars on account Miss Margaret A. Means as per your request to her 19th inst—
Please acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours truly:
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means—

Sept 28th 95

E. B. Millard Esq Pres
Hanging Rock. O
Dear Sir:

Return you herewith papers concerning oil lease— Also rough draught of a lease such as Father & I believe should be made for M. K & Co to which you can add or change to suit your views—
We believe it would be better for you to attend the meeting on 2nd prox and only agree to call a meeting of your directors to submit the question of lease— You can learn what the general sentiment may be, and the prospects of securing extensive development—
Have been too busy to see Adams & Culbertson and as Father thinks we should meet as Directors before granting lease, now return the papers

Yours truly
E. C. Means—

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Sept 30th 95

E. B. Willard Esq Prest
Hanging Rock. O.
Dear Sir;

In a recent letter you intimated the Company would soon be in funds to pay those holding Co's notes — As soon as it will suit your convenience you can let Mr. Bull remit for the $5.000.00 note of Miss Margaret A. Means, and interest. He can calculate the interest and send me check payable to her order and I will send note in —

Furnaces here all making good outputs — Mr. Crowther leaves today, goes to Youngstown O to rest and pass his old age with relatives & friends. He retired at his own request and leaves with best of feeling — Has been in iron business over 50 years —

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

Oct 2nd 95

E. B. Willard Esq Prest
Hanging Rock. O.
Dear Sir:

Enclosed find note for $5.000 endorsed "paid in full" by check as yours 1st inst —

It was my intention to draught oil lease so that in first year lessee should drill well 2000 ft & pay royalties if any or pay 7/8 of taxes on all lands embraced in lease and in 19 succeeding years pay 7/8 of all taxes in addition to royalties — The principal object being to force development of property or surrender of lease — Father and I thought under such conditions the more lands we leased the better and on the contrary the lessee would not want to take too much acreage unless he felt able to develop it promptly —

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.
E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.
ROBERT PEEBLES,

Daniels Crooke & Co
Cincinnati
Ohio

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
INCORPORATED.

Ashland, Ky., Oct 2nd 95

In reply to yours of 30th ult Bill -

Gentlemen:

Enclosed find Cincinnati draft payable to your order for Twenty four Dollars -

Yours truly:

E. C. Means

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Oct 15th 95

E. B. Millard Esq Pres.
Hanging Rock. O.
Dear Sir:

Replying to yours 14th inst
You can pay the note due Nov 18th
to suit your convenience -

Last Sunday with Mr. Cresap Ringo
his mother & my wife, drove out
to Pine Grove - Enjoyed the drive
very much but only had time
to look through store -

I learned from Ringo that a month
or so past the blacksmith shop at
Pine Grove was entered and with
tools obtained there the New Castle
store was robbed - Two weeks ago
in moving a hay stack at Coalton
a chisel marked "Pine Grove" was found
in it together with 4 bits - Eastams
store on East Bork was robbed and as
an iron brace was found there we
concluded the bits belonged to it.
Ringo told me a brace was taken at P. G.

E B M #2

Suspicion of robbing Eastham's store
was turned on some boys by name
of Hamilt[illegible] but no proof has yet
been obtained. If upon inquiry
you can hear of them or of any one
from this region being about P. G.
or Jr. C. we may be able to locate
the parties - I am presuming the
brace and bits are the ones stolen
from P. G. and will have the bits
brought in here and if Eastham
will permit, the brace - which is iron
entire - and send over for identification.

Yours truly:
E. C. Means -

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Oct 15th 95

H. G. Merry Esq G.M.
Low Moor, Va
Dear Sir:

In screening our coal we are making a grade that passes through a 5/16 mesh. I would like to send you several powder kegs filled with it to be placed in your ovens and have you try its coking qualities. By putting it in the ovens in the powder keg it can be kept separate from your own. We have no coke ovens here.

Report received Sundayshows a good start at B Fee, on the bat side judging from the Silvery iron made, but with good output. Shall be pleased to hear your opinion as to prospects for 1200 tons per week with present lines.

Output at Covington Fee has increased Are you able to get better heats there or whence came the increase?

What have you done about the ore land on which you have option?

H.G. M #2

Furnaces here running, one on Bessemer; one on Soft Silvery and one on 8% Silicon. Iron going out faster than made and stocks cut down to best grades only.. Big Republican barbacue tomorrow candidates for Gov. & Lieut. Gov. speak. We expect big crowds and for once have actually hopes of good results in November.

I notice Rich Patch ore on burden, is it old stock or are you buying more? What are the prospects for securing enough ore to run both furnaces all winter? From reports I judge you have not gained much stock.

Hope you have recovered from pain in hip and that all are well.

With regards

Yours truly,

E. C. Means Presb

24

Oct 17th 95

F. A. Hyne Esq Agent
Covington Ky
Dear Sir:

Yours favor dated 12th mailed 15th duly received & Enclosed check for $28.95 on account collections less repairs—

Dr. Balance due from Hyne Sept 2 1895 $3.49
Collections as per letter 12th Oct 46.00
49.49

Cr. Steam repairs " " " " $12.45
Commission 4.60
Check 1st Nat Bank 28.95 46.00
Balance due from Hynes 12th Oct $3.49

You are authorized to paint the roof as you suggested—

Yours truly,
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Oct 21st 95

William Means Esq
Millers Hotel, New York
Dear Sir:

Enclosed find New York draft for One hundred ($100.00) Dollars on account Miss Margaret A. Means as per your request to her 18th inst which please acknowledge—
Your letter did not reach here in time to answer Saturday 19th inst

Yours truly,
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Oct 21st 95

1893 & 1894 Estate of Thos W. Means dec
To E. C. Means

1893 Aug 1st For meals on Cincinnati
trip to attend meeting of Roan Mt
Steel & Iron Co

" Aug 28th For meals on Cincinnati
trip to attend meeting of Roan Mt
Steel & Iron Co $ 2.00

1894 April 29, 30th & May 1st For Rail road fare
and Hotel expense on Louisville trip
to attend United States Court in case of
Cowen et als Trustees vs Adams & Means
Administrators etc 1.50

" Sept 12, 13 & 14th For Railroad fare
and Hotel expense on Louisville trip
to attend United States Court in case of
Cowen et als Trustees vs Adams & Means
Administrators etc 10.40

Total to Oct 21st 95 10.15
$ 24.05

25

Oct 21st 95

Means, Lyle & Co
Hanging Rock O
Gentlemen:

Your favor 19th inst received found enclosed your check on Citizens Natl Bank Cincinnati O for Eight thousand seventy one 11/100 Dollars on account of note in favor of Margaret A. Means 15th Nov 94 which is herewith returned —

Yours truly,
E. C. Means —

Oct 25th 95

E. B. Willard Esq Prest
Hanging Rock O
Dear Sir:

Your message by telephone at hand —

Considering the amount of iron taken by Addyston Works in past six months I believe it well to keep them as customers provided price is satisfactory and rather than to accumulate iron at present would agree with your opinion to sell No 2 at price offered — During next six months Virginia irons will probably seek western markets while ice is in Eastern rivers and deliveries East are thereby stopped. It is in my mind good policy to unload all stocks of coke iron at present prices — I believe however Bessemer iron will go to higher values and Charcoal iron come into market.

Yours truly:
E. C. Means Supt

26

Oct 28th 95

P. B. Warner Esq
Cincinnati O
Dear Sir:

Replying to yours 22nd inst. While I have not talked with Mr. Adams about the option on M. K & Co stock my own opinion is, that I do not believe it a proper thing to do at present. We can talk about the matter when we meet.

Yours truly,

E. C. Means

27

Nov 6th 95

Dear Aunt Margaret—

Your letter of 4th inst at hand—
Enclosed find Newyork Draft for One thousand Dollars ($1000.00) on your account and payable to your order as requested—

Well, we had an election yesterday and for once we are in hopes the Republicans have elected a Governor— Locally the Republicans elected the city ticket and the school bonds were defeated—

Joe Butler was out to tea yesterday and Lizzie came over to help entertain him— John Russell & Charley came in afterwards—

The report is that John will marry the widow Kanne of Catlettsburg and Lizzie & Ruby are much distressed at the idea— She is a daughter of Wallace Williamson—

Father has been filling the local papers with articles against the school bonds and is pleased with the resulting defeat—

Charley is very much disappointed over the election of Dick Carr as police judge against Anthony Smauch and talks "anarchy" etc.

Like you we have had delightfull weather, excepting the drouth, for past month— The Ohio River is very low and we would be glad to have rain—

You are right in judging my preference for short clothes for the baby. It makes quite a difference in her appearance— and gives her a chance to stand up. Which is one of her accomplishments—

With love from all
Yours affectionately,
E. C. Means

28

Nov 14th 95

N. C. Merry Esq
Low Moor. Va.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find invoice for 6 kegs coal. This is from the Clinton tract of the Means & Russell Iron Co on which the A. C. & Ry holds an option and is making a survey of the coal outcrop. Please give it a test for coking properties. While I doubt obtaining any very good results still I believe it will make an inferior grade of coke. With the promise of something better after washing the coal.

Geologically the first samples sent are known as the No 2 seam and the last as the No 6 seam.

I received your letter containing the proposition of Covington Improvement and will hand it to Father for his opinion.

A. G. M. No 2

Father is at Hanging Rock with Mr. Willard visiting the property of Means, Kyle & Co this week. We will come over together next week to attend the Annual meeting. Ashland & Ironton are considerably exercised over the prospect of a bridge across the Ohio River between the two places. The scheme includes an electric line from Huntington to Ironton.

The Clinton Fire Brick Works has declared a dividend of 4% payable about 25th inst.

Furnaces here are doing usual work averageing 325 tons each per week of Silvery iron.

With regards to Mrs. Merry and pleasant anticipations of the meeting next week. I am

Yours truly,

E. C. Means.

29

A Nov 23rd 95 M.A.M #2

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Today a letter from Wm Means to you asking for $125.00 was received under cover to me - I sent him $100.00 on your account to 47 Trinity St Atlanta, Ga - Last month I sent him for you $100.00 to New York about 21st ult - He received it on 22d So it is possible you may have caught a glimpse of him - Father and I were at Low Moor 20th inst and as usual enjoyed ourselves - It was very cold however. 1½% Dividend was declared payable in December. Clinton Fire Brick Works paid 4% today making 9% this year. I have bought $10.000 - 4% Registered U.S. Bonds due 1907 for you and gave Richardson Cashier a check for as many more but he has not succeeded at the price offered in obtaining them - Perhaps the gold shipments will lower values again - You have on hand and due in Dec. enough funds for your usual requirements and the additional amount is simply lying idle. So don't think I am not keeping enough for you in bank. I have been busy lately surveying the coal on some of the Means & Russell Lands which the A.C. & I. Ry are considering and may purchase - It is raining today and is very disagreeable out of doors -

We are expecting you to come and help nurse Harriet Evelyn ~~which~~ while her mother is recovering from the usual Christmas dementia (?) Without being rain and over proud we try to think she is up to the average at any rate -

With love from her & Ruby with my own -

Your affectionate nephew
E. C. Means -

for my former -

30

Nov 23d 95

William Means Esq
47 Trinity St. Atlanta, Ga

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find draft on 4th Nat'l Bank New York payable to your order for One Hundred 00/100 ($100 00) Dollars on account Miss Margaret A. Means in response to your letter 20th inst to her.

Please acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours truly,

E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Dec 4th 95

Dear Aunt Margaret:

The enclosed letter came to day - The last remittance to Wm Means was 23d ult and for $100 00 although his request was for more.

Before replying to the enclosed I will ~~visit~~ await your instructions.

Mather has been sold and being out surveying I have fully realized that winter has arrived.

There is little new. We have given to Samuel Bigelow an option on Stock in Means & Russell Iron Co. He expects to handle it in connection with his bridge project. He has options on the Street Ry and will build a bridge between here & Brunton His object being to have an electric line between Brunton & Hunting town

Baby not well - cutting more teeth.

With love. Your aff. nephew
E. C. Means

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.
E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.
ROBERT PEEBLES, SECRETARY AND TREASURER

R. Mather Cashier
Ironton
Ohio

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED.)
Ashland, Ky., Dec 5 1895
In reply to yours of

Dear Sir:

Please mail check to me for any dividends which may be credited to the account of Miss Margaret A. Means with statement thereof and oblige

Yours truly;

E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

[redacted], Vice-President.
JNO. G. PEEBLES, Vice-President.
ROBERT PEEBLES, Secretary and Treasurer.

E. B. Willard Esq Prop
Hanging Rock
O

DEAR SIR :

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, Jr., [redacted]

MEMORANDUM.

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE.

ASHLAND COAL & IRON RAILWAY COMPANY,
ASHLAND, KENTUCKY.

Dec 5th 1895

Replying to your favor 2 inst- & from your letter, and as to usual experience is against such sales, I would be opposed to selling the 5 or 6 acres of land near "Old Union" Jack- Major Sam Bigstaff has had some correspondence with the C.P.&V. and B.&O. RR's about coming to his bridge, if built, and you may get see the RR. up Pine Creek, you have had in mind so long-

Yours truly; E. C. Means

32

Don't forget taxes due soon—

Dec 5th 95

F. A. Hyne Esq
Covington Ky
Dear Sir:

Your letter of 1st inst recd. Enclosing check for $32.43 on account as follows:

Balance from 12th Oct due		$3.49
Collections as per letter 1st Dec		41.00
		44.49
Credits		
Repairs	$3.50	
Water Rent	3.78	
Commission	4.10	
Check	32.43	43.81
Bal due from Hyne Dec 1st		$0.68

You can have the chimney and other repairs made on account of damage caused by the storm— About the first of January I wish you would send me, if you have it, a statement of the rents collected during the past year—

Yours truly:
E. C. Means Agent

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.
E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.
ROBERT PEEBLES, SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED.)
Ashland, Ky., Dec 9th 1895
In reply to yours of 6th

The Robert Mitchell Fur Co
Cincinnati
O

Gentlemen:

Please send me five (5) pairs of brackets for use with curtain rods in mantels as per your letter to Mrs Means

Yours truly;
E. C. Means

Dec 1st 95

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Replying to your letter of 1st inst I enclose herewith a draft for the sum of One thousand ($1000.00) Dollars on your account and payable to your order— draft on 1st Nat'l Bank. New York —

About taxes— The usual custom is to wait until you are hunted up by the tax collector but as your name is not in the directory you may be missed— It may be necessary for you to consult either Mr. Maynard or your bank friends as I know nothing of the N.Y. custom worth repeating here— Perhaps Miss (?), your boarders, may help you as she probably is a tax payer—

I am sorry you object to so much of a present from Ruby & me, because we both were pleased with the idea of surprising you with

N. A. M. #2

something more than we ordinarily give, and we were making an exception in your case, because we both felt it is not often you want any thing more than a remembrance and this time books were not amiss as you wanted some— We did not intend that Lily should tell you but we could give you a list of them when you are here Christmas and they find them in N.Y. on your return. As an exception please accept them this time for it is such a pleasure to give them to show our appreciation of your goodness to us—

The Cincinnati Tribune has a short article on the reconciliation of the Mearns' of Yellow Springs which Father will send to you—

With love from Ruby & myself and a bye-bye from baby

Your affectionate nephew

D. C. Means

34

Dec 9th 95

Wm. H. Guild & Co's
11 Brownfield St. Boston Mass
Gentlemen:

Enclosed find checks in payment for following subscription

3 Judge -

Harold Means Ashland Ky
Beginning Jany 1st 1896 4.25

W. B. Seaton Ashland Ky
Beginning Jany 1st 1896 4.25

Wm. Maynard 144 Sixth Ave
Brooklyn N. Y.
Beginning Jany 1st 1896 4.25

1 Cosmopolitan
Willis L. Ringo Ashland Ky
Beginning Dec 1st 1895 1.15

1 Table Talk
Mrs E. C. Means Ashland Ky
Beginning with Jany 1896 1.00
Pall Mall Academy Pictures 1894 50
Yours truly, E. C. Means $15.40

Dec 10th 95

F. A. Hyne Esq Agt
Covington Ky
Dear Sir:

Enclosed find Fifteen ($15) Dollars draft on First Natl Bank Cincinnati O on account Miss Margaret A. Means but payable to your order which you requested to help pay the taxes on her property. In regard to Mr. Schanz if you can get some one to collect it on commission do so but we cannot afford to spend money on Lawyers for such an amount - Say you offer $3.00 to get the $12.00

Yours truly:
E. C. Means
Agent -

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Dec 11th 95

Dear Aunt Margaret:

I have sent your letter and that of Mrs M. to Mr. Anderson—

I believe that you would do well to authorize me to send the money requested. For this reason, you have never sought to cause or keep in effect any separation but have sent funds as requested and an account has been kept of the amount and charged as furnished— Now that he is at home to stop sending his requests would look as if you were not pleased at his return home and would not aid him while there because you wanted him away— However I await your final decision and only offer this as a suggestion. Ruby has been sick with malaria and baby from teething both better now.

Yours affectionately E. C. Means

M. L. M #2

Our your books is an account of Mrs Means Executor and Trustee of A. Labatt which is charged with the sum of $10.610.68 —— As a settlement in court was made some time ago and Mrs Means released and a new Ex & Trustee appointed would it not be well to charge that amount to Mrs Means personal account— I understood you to say that you wanted him charged with the money you have paid to him but as this amount was paid for him I would prefer to have an expression of your desires before doing anything with the account— If you want time to consider it or more information don't let me hurry you— The end of the year and new balances brought it to my mind

Yrs E. C. M—

Dec 11th 95

Julius L. Anderson Esq
Dranton O

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find two letters which please read and return — My own opinion in connection therewith, is, that the remittance should be made, and it will show that no intention heretofore has been to keep him from his family but that the funds have been furnished him as requested and an account been kept of it. Now that a reconciliation has been effected let there be no grounds for believing the party furnishing him with funds intended to do so for the purpose of maintaining a separation — There is no necessity for her writing, I can attend to that —

Yours truly
E. C. Means.

Dec 12th 95

Dear Aunt Margaret:

The enclosed came last night after I had mailed letter to you — It is not necessary for you to write to him unless you prefer to do so — I can remit to him as usual on your account if you desire it.

The "Celebrated Case" is nearly closed unless they put up the money or bond to pay for printing the record — They wanted to cut out a large part of the testimony and appeal on the construction of the will — but Mr. Maxwell opposed it —

Ruby is going about the house again but is wishing for a full set of teeth for the baby as a Christmas present — Coming one at a time is slow business but lots of it —

Am pleased with your decision about books

Your affectionate nephew E. C. Means

37

Dec 16th 95

William Means Esq
Yellow Springs O

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find Cincinnati draft for Fifty ⅝ Dollars ($50⅝) on account Mrs Margaret A. Means as per your request to her 3rd inst. Please acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours truly;
E.E. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.
(INCORPORATED)
Ashland, Ky., Nov 23, 95
In reply to yours of 16th x 20th

Gentlemen:

Enclosed find my check on Ashland Nat'l Bank for $20 50/100 in payment your a/c $18 75 7/8 1/25

Yours truly;
E.E. Means

38

Dec 23rd 95

H. G. Merry Esq
Low Moor Va
Dear Sir:

Yours 20th inst at hand. Leffingwell will begin shipping the last of this week and continue until order is completed. I will follow the making of the brick and see that you get them as early as possible. Have seen the tracing showing lines of C#2 and like them. At a Directors meeting here last week a purchase of 6000 acres additional coal lands was authorized. Have you obtained any results from the last coal sent you? The first sample was not considered good furnace coke. Hunter leaves for Richmond today. Heron, our mine Supt, has also accepted a more lucrative position and leaves Jan 1st for Southern Ky. Expect new m[illegible]

H.G. M#2

to take Heron's place. Mrs Means & I are both pleased to know you & Mrs. Merry are coming to visit us soon. We are expecting Aunt Margaret tomorrow to make a Christmas visit. Have a letter from W. J. Cram of Argand Refining Co inviting me to take stock in that Co. He writes that it has been paying 10% annually for last two years and "our prospects are better now than ever for continued prosperity." "If you do not care to take hold of it, can you refer me to some party, whom it would benefit the company to have as a stockholder." Col Putnam and Gay both have stock but as yet I have not decided to take any. What do you think of it?

With regards to Mrs Merry & yourself
Yours truly, E. C. Means

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.
E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.
ROBERT PEEBLES,
SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

William H. Guild & Co's
11 Bromfield St
Boston Mass

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED.)
Ashland, Ky., Dec 24th 1895
In reply to yours of

Gentlemen:

Enclosed find my check for $3 30/100 in payment 1 yrs subs to Harpers Weekly for Thos. H. Means, Ashland Ky to begin Jany 1st '96 — You have a credit of 15¢ to my acct. which you can apply here —

Yours truly;
E. C. Means

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.
E. O. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.
ROBERT PEEBLES, SECRETARY AND TREASURER.
OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED)
Ashland, Ky., Dec 24th 95
In reply to yours of 20th

W. J. Braun Esq
Marietta
Ohio

Dear Sir!

Yours letter has led me to look into the question of the purchase mentioned - I have written Merry at Law about what you wrote to me, in part; and if you can furnish me with some information to lay before him We may both go in - As I have always considered your management necessary to the success of the Co

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED)
Ashland, Ky., 18
In reply to yours of

W. J. C. #2

would you be willing to state approximately your interest and that I can tell out if you do at same figure - As there have been stock dividends based on earning capacity rather than plant value - I would want to sell out when you do or when any interest assumes control, like the Standard Co for instance - With best wishes for a Merry Christmas - Yours Etc E. O. Means

41

Dec 28th 95

H.G. Merry Esq
Low Moor, Va
Dear Sir:

Enclosed find latest papers from Mr. Crane which please read and return — You will notice that the stock is watered and sells on its earning capacity — I have decided to take 20 or 30 shares but am waiting to hear from you before writing to Crane of my intention —

Effingwell has shipped some of the Covington brick and will follow probably faster than you can put them in — So you are in shape to let furnace fall in, if it is not profitable to continue —

Please accept my thanks for that fine box of cigars, they are especially appreciated because unexpect — With regards —

Yours truly: E. C. Means

Dec 28th 95

W. J. Crane Esq
Marietta O
Dear Sir,

Your favor 26th inst. read I will forward same to Mr. Merry and as soon as I hear from him will give you a definite answer as to the amount of stock I can take or please —

It is now 8 years since my last trip to Marietta and sometime within the next 12 months I want to make Uncle a short visit and renew some acquaintances —

There are some rumors of new test wells being put down near here in the spring — We shall not drill soon but will probably lease to others if suitable persons apply —

We have recently added 6000 acres to our real estate holdings —

With regards Yours truly:

E. C. Means

42

Dec 31st 95

M. A. M #2

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Ruby gave me your check for $600.00 which you left with her – She said you asked her how much you paid me last year for taking care of your business and neither you nor she could remember – It was $500.00 and was a very liberal compensation – Now Aunt you are too liberal to me and I am returning the check for $600.00 so that you may destroy it and make a new one for no greater amount than last year –

I am delighted that you appreciate my care of your affairs but I feel that you should not believe it is worth paying so much for just yet. Remember too your kindness in going on the bond of Tom Adams and myself, which trust has paid us a very considerable amount, over $700 – each last year, with more to come later as the Estate is administered – Of course part of that was virtually from you –

The baby misses you and looks into the room for you. I really think that she tried to say "Aunt Mag" last night when she was repeating her vocabulary after supper –

Bessie entertains at dinner tomorrow and Mrs. Putnam Thursday at tea –

The ground was covered with snow today but has melted considerably –

With much love from Ruby & myself who regret the shortness of your visit and hope you will repeat it soon

Your affectionate nephew

E. C. [illegible]

Shall we forward the book you left on the dresser?

Jany 6th 96

H. G. Merry Esq
Laer Moor, Va.
Dear Sir:

Today the river is running full of ice and unless warmer weather comes am afraid it will close. It interfers considerably with our coal business. Concerning Argand Stock I will take 20 shares and will write to Mr. Crane to that effect. Will also write that you will probably do the same.

Have not yet received the second box of coke. There appears to be a very close local freight rate on C&O.

Shall we expect you this week or next? Father & I will be in Cincinnati 13 and 14 and possibly 15, so do not arrange to come then. Bring Mrs. Merry with you as all are counting on her coming and will be disappointed if she does not. Tell Cargill 7 shares of Clinton Fire Brick sold @ 12¢ yesterday. Say Putnam buying.

Mrs. Means and babe join in regards.

Yours truly,

E. C. Means.

Please return the papers Crane sent to us.

E. C.

Jany 6th 96

Mr. J. Cram Esq
Marietta O
Dear Sir;

Pardon my delay in acknowledging your last letter but I have been waiting to hear from Mr. Merry - He writes me that he will probably take 20 shares - I will take the same number - He has not returned the papers you sent to me but I presume you will not want them returned in case we take stock but will leave them with us -

Winter seems to have come in earnest and today we have ice floating in the river -

When you are ready to make the transfer of the stock write to me and I will send check in payment of my purchase and will advise you about Mr. Merry further -

With regards -

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

6

Jany 7th 95

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Your letter enclosing check received. I certainly am pleased to know that you appreciated my services and thank you for your remuneration — It is accepted —

Lily & Father dined with us Sunday — And Ruby is talking of having Charley & Lizzie over to a chafing dish supper soon —

River is full of ice but it looks like rain today —

Will soon prepare your statements and send them to you —

The Bank made a 5% dividend 1st Jany —

With much love.

Your affectionate nephew

E. C. Means

Jany 8th

F. A. Laidley Esq Gen. Mang.
Cincinnati, Ohio

Dear Sir:

Your letter 7th at hand. I was out of town this morning and got your letter when I returned — Have been to the bank and tried to arrange for the loan as named in your letter but the officials declined to take the paper even with the very large amount of collateral offered — I cannot understand their position unless they are after the "newbonds" and know nothing of the Mail Line stock value —

Will see you Tuesday and may get such information as will enable me to aid you with them later —

Yours truly:

E. C. Means

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.
E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.
ROBERT PEEBLES, SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED.)

H. G. Merry Esq
Law Rooms
Va

Ashland, Ky. Janu 10th 1896
In reply to yours of 8th inst.

Dear Sir: I have sent check to W. J. Crum Marietta, O in payment 20 shares @ par Argand stock and asked him to write you - You can send check direct to him and get the certificate direct - Shall be glad to see you and Mrs. Merry when you come down - With regards

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.
E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.
ROBERT PEEBLES, SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED.)

W. J. Crum Esq
Marietta
Ohio

Ashland, Ky. Janu 10th 1896
In reply to yours of 7th inst.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find New York exchange Two thousand No/100 Dollars ($2000.00) in payment 20 shares Argand stock - Make certificate in my name and mail here -

Mr. Merry will take an equal amount and send check at any time - You can write him -

Yours truly: E. C. Means

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT,
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT

E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.

ROBERT PEEBLES,
SECRETARY AND TREASURER

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED)
Ashland, Ky., Jany 15th 1896
In reply to yours of

H. G. Merry Esq
Law Moor
Va

Dear Harry:

Owing to the death of Mrs. Adams, Father's sister, in Newyork last night and the burial which will occur here last of week I expect it would be well to postpone your visit for a week - Mrs. Means had made arrangements to give Mrs. Merry a little party but of course cannot do so now. With regards Yours truly
E. C. Means

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT,
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT

E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.

ROBERT PEEBLES,
SECRETARY AND TREASURER

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED)
Ashland, Ky., Jany 15th 1896
In reply to your [illegible] 17th inst.

W. J. Cram Esq
Marietta
Ohio

Dear Sir:

Certificate №160 for 20 shares of Argand stock duly received - Earnings a/c for year satisfactory for past year - It is probable that I can meet you at Law Moor as suggested - Will let you know about time you start East -

Yours truly: E. C. Means

Jan 20th 96

A. C. Merry by Len Mang
Low Moor Va

Dear Sir:

Yours of 19th at hand — We shall be pleased to have you and Mrs. Merry come either this week or next at your convenience — Mrs. Adams death was sudden and unexpected but without suffering as usual with consumptives.

Aunt Margaret is Lily returned to New York today — The former has devoted the last 15 years to her sister and will feel her loss greatly — We are all well here, and feel anxious for Seatons sister — Sam has gone out to Missouri to aid as far as possible in nursing —

I am glad to know the Low Moor fee is doing well — What is the status of the new boilers? With regards to all

Yours truly: E. C. Means

I have received my Argand certificate for 20 shares —

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.
INCORPORATED
Ashland, Ky.

Jany 22 — 96
18th

F. A. Laidley Esq G.M.
Cincinnati
Ohio

Dear Sir:

The authority in writing as passed by the Board has been handed to Cashier Ashland Natl Bank and now I think you will have no trouble in securing accomodations there — Send any note you may decide to discount under terms proposed, to bank direct, as I might be away — Yours truly: E. C. Means

49

Jany 27th 96

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Replying to your letter 23rd I enclose herewith a draft on 4th Nat'l Bank New York for One Thousand ($1000.00) Dollars on your account and payable to your order—

Today I will write and order the Ironton Register sent to you— The baby has not crawled forward as yet but soon will as she can now get on her hands & knees and make rapid progress backward. She is cutting more teeth and not feeling as jolly as usual—

Ruby & I ate dinner with the Ringo's yesterday. Afterwards all came out to call on Miss H. E. I hope you are well and am pleased to know all are so kind to you in Miss McChesneys—

With love from Ruby, baby & self—

Your affectionate nephew: E. C. Means

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
INCORPORATED
Ashland, Ky. Jany 27th 96
In reply to years of

F. A. Hyne Esq. Agent
300 Main St
Covington Ky

Dear Sir:

Please make report of December and Jany collections and payments— Showing each month separately And oblige

Yours truly:
E. C. Means
Agent for M. A. Means

Janry 27th 96

Editor Trouton Register
Trouton. Ohio
Dear Sir:

Please enter, as subscriber
Miss Margaret A. Means
#46 West 21st St.
New York City
send her the paper beginning
with the issue (22nd ?) containing
the notice about Mrs. Adams death

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.

E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.

ROBERT PEEBLES,
SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED)

Ashland, Ky., Feby 1st 1896

In reply to yours of 30th ult

William Means Esq
Yellow Springs
O

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find Cincinnati Exchange for Seventy five ($75.00) Dollars on account Miss Margaret A. Means as per your request to her 30th Jany. Which please acknowledge and oblige

Yours truly
E. C. Means Agent for
Margaret A. Means

Feby 4th 6

F. A. Hyne Esq Agent
Covington, Ky—
Dear S

letter of Feby 3rd received.
Enclo First Natl Bank Covington
for ("15 10/100) on account.
Dr B $0.68

Cr Taxes
Water rent
Repairs Boehmer, Ky
" Thos P. McCarty
" F. A. Hyne 5.40
10% Commission on $55.00 collections 5.50 54.90
Check as above 15.78
15.10
Balance due still 0.68
Yours truly; E. C. Eneans Agent

Feby 4th 96

F. A. Hyne Esq Agent
Covington, Ky—
Dear Sir:

Your letter of Feby 3rd received. enclosing check on First Natl Bank Covington for Fifteen 10/100 Dollars ($15 10/100) on account.

Dr	Balance due from Hyne Dec 5th 95			$0.68
	draft on 1st Natl Bank Cintii	" 10th "		15.00
	Collections	December '95	35.00	
	"	January '96	20.00	
				70.68
Cr	Taxes paid Covington	Dec 95	$40.00	
	Water rent	" Q'rending "	2.50	
	Repairs Boehmer, Rolf & Co		1.00	
	" Thos P. McCarty		.50	
	" F. A. Hyne		5.40	
	10% Commission on $55— collections		5.50	54.90
	Check as above			15.78
	Balance due still			15.10
				0.68

Yours truly; E. C. Means Agent

Loose Item

Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
ASHLAND, KY.

E. C. Means Esq.
Supt. A. C. & I. Ry. Co.
Ashland
Ky

W. J. Cram Esq
Marietta
Ohio

Feby 4th 96

S. S. Spaulding Esq
New York City -

Dear Sir:

Last year we had a short correspondence in reference to a sale of bonds of the Ashland & Catlettsburg Street Railway Co. I was unable to secure an option on the bonds at that time - There is now an option outstanding which will expire 1st of March - In the event no sale is made by that time a 30 day option will be given me - If you still believe you can do something with these bonds let me know & I will arrange to get full information as to road - The bonds are in amount $60,000.00 6% interest - They are now pledged as collateral and if I can succeed in selling the bonds, a party of us here are going to purchase a controlling interest in the Stock

Yours truly: E. C. Means

Uncertain of your address I send this to your brothers address

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.
E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.
ROBERT PEEBLES,
SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
INCORPORATED.
Ashland, Ky., Feby 4th 1896

W. J. Crane Esq
Marietta
Ohio

Dear Sir:

It is very doubtfull as to whether I can meet you at Low Moor this month as I shall probably have to go to Newyork about 18th inst with Mr. Merry - However Merry will be at home the week following -

Yours truly: E. C. Means

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
INCORPORATED.
Ashland, Ky., Feby 4th 1896

Editor Boston Register
Boston
O

Dear Sir:

Were you careful to send the Register to Miss Mary A. Means beginning with the number containing the notice of Mrs. Mary A. Adams death She writes me that she is anxious to get that number Yours truly:

E. C. Means

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN H. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.
E. C. MEARS, SUPERINTENDENT.
ROBERT PEEBLES, SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
INCORPORATED.

Ashland, Ky., Feby 4th 1896

In reply to yours of 29th ult

R. C. Garrett Esq
Middleport
Ohio

Dear Sir:

Mr. Leffingwell is the largest owner of stock in the Clinton Fire Brick Works and he does not favor any increase of plant at present. It will be a matter for later consideration. I will leave your letter with him. With regards. Yours truly:

E. C. Mears

Feby 6th 6

Frank Lyman Esq
Brooklyn N.Y.-
Dear Sir:

By this time you are freed from the cares of public office and may be willing to give me a little information and advice for which I shall be duly thankfull- First do you believe 6% bonds on a street railway, operated by electricity, could be sold in New York, if the road shows ability to earn something more than interest the first year of its completion? There is an Electric Railway from Ashland to Catlettsburg having a total length of 5½ miles which was completed Jany 1st 1895- A mortgage for $60.000 00 has been recorded but none of the bonds have been sold. The bonds have been used togather with other security to borrow funds locally, i.e. in Ashland & Catlettsburg-

F. L #2

The Electric Light Co here desires to secure control of the Street Ry and its stockholders will if they can secure an option on a controlling interest (3/5) of the Capital Stock of the Street Ry pay $15.000 therefor. The present holders of the 3/5 interest in Street Ry say that before selling their stock the bonds must be sold and the indebtedness of the Street Ry be put in such form that their additional securities be released and returned to them. The stockholders of the Light Co (of which I am one) have not enough capital to do this. Now I can secure an option on the bonds from the Street Ry Co itself at less than par or be given a commission if I succeed in selling the bonds. I shall have a statement prepared showing the condition of the Street Ry and its earnings. These I will bring to Newyork with me on 19th inst.

Yours truly: E. C. Means

E. B. Willard Esq Pres't
Hanging Rock
O

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED)
Ashland, Ky., Feby 15th 1896
In reply to yours of 14th inst

Dear Sir:

Received certificate of stock #88 for 27 shares in Means Kyle & Co also check for $1500.00 both in name of Miss Mary A. Means

Yours truly:
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT

Miss Mary A. Thorn
2032 Bainbridge st
Philadelphia Pa

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
INCORPORATED

Feby 29th 1896

Dear Madam:

Enclosed find a draft on the 4th Nat Bank New York for Two hundred ($200) Dollars which Miss Margaret A. Means has requested me to send to you from her funds. You can send me a note for the above amount payable to Miss Means at the end of six months without interest — Very respectfully yours: E. C. Means

58

Feby 29th 96

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Your letter 27th enclosing Miss Thorn's of 24th inst at hand— I have this day mailed to Miss Mary A. Thorn a draft on New York bank for $200.00 on your account— Asking her to send note at 6 months without interest— payable to you— Also by request of Mrs Means to you 27th inst I have mailed him Cincinnati draft for $85.00 on your account—

After my New York trip I reached home safely and without catching cold— Found Ruby and H.E. both well and glad to have company— I enjoyed my visit with you, Lily & Mr. M. very much, it was so home like and sociable— Mr. Houston told me he was delighted with the way Lily

M. A. M #2

entertained Ola & himself—

Ruby was pleased with the dresses and shirt-waists— It turns-out that I was instructed to purchase One dress for the baby instead of six— It will stand Ruby's back— and eyes so she is not complaining—

If you see Father Doon tell him I shall write to him next week about the Street Ry— I do not believe Mr. Big Staff will buy it—

Business is fairly good but Iron is going to lower prices—

With love—

Your affectionate nephew

E. C. Means

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Feby 29th 96

William Means Esq
Yellow Springs O
Dear Sir:

Enclosed find draft on 1st Natl Bank Cincinnati for Eighty five 00/100 ($85.00) Dollars on account Miss Margaret A. Means as per your request to her 27th inst.

Please acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours truly
E. C. Means Agt
for Margaret A. Means

Mar 7th 96

Dear Aunt Margaret:

The enclosed letter from Miss Thorne should be read by you. She did not send any note with it as I requested her to do — so you had better return the letter for filing among receipts.

Ruby is busy attending a revival meeting at her church. She says it is as exciting as a Methodist one.

Baby is learning to travel with considerable rapidity by crawling but shows no ability to walk.

We are having a blustery day after heavy rains last night. Boats are all running in Ohio River on good stage of water.

With love from all.

Your affectionate nephew
E. C. Mea...

Mar 21st 6

H. G. Merry Esq Gen. Mang.
Lawn Moor, Va

Dear Sir:

Your favor 20th inst at hand. Having made some business engagements for today and Monday it is not convenient for me to meet Mr. Lyman tomorrow at Lawn Moor. If I had known earlier I could have arranged to have gone over last night and returned Sunday.

You can tell him that I agree with you that it is not advisable to close the option on the Mud Tunnel property. Your adverse report and the high price asked in the first instance and the misfortunes of our competitors, which remove one of the reasons for immediate acquisition of one property, in the second instance, are the basis for my opinion. However I hope Mr. Lyman will visit the property for his own observation of its value. It may be that you and he could later

H.G.M #2

recommend to the Low Moor Co that an offer of a given figure might be made for the property - I presume the property has some value - We are looking for Father today, as he wrote he would probably leave New York Friday - He has been sick and confined to the house with lumbago and troubled with his eyes - With regards to Mr. Lyman, yourself and family -

Yours truly;

E. C. Means Prest.

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Mar 30th 96

William Means Esq
Yellow Springs O
Dear Sir:

Enclosed find draft on First Natl Bank, Cincinnati, O payable to your order for Eighty Five ($85.00) Dollars on account Miss Margaret A. Means as per your request to her 28th inst of which please acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours truly;
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Mar 30th 96

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Replying to your favor 25th inst.

Mr. Robert Jr. Barrett will receive your gift this afternoon at the hands of Harriet Evelyn and Ruby, who agreed to deliver it with your compliments and I have no doubt it will be thankfully received. It will surprise him too. Ruby will write to you about it later.

Today I send Wm Means $85.00 on your account at his request.

Saturday & Sunday I spent at Law Moor with Mr. Frank Lyman. Had a very enjoyable visit at the Merry's. Mrs. M. asked to be remembered to you. Ned Seaton also inquired for you to Miss Deadore.

Harry & Father have been counting at Glenmyo. It is quite convenient for both to go together.

With love. Affec

Mar 31st 6

The Powell & Clement Co
Cincinnati, O.

Gentlemen:

Enclosed find draft on
1st Nat'l Bank Cincinnati for $122 11/100
in payment bills.

Mar 27th 96	$127.03	
28th	1.50	128.53
Less 5%		6.42
		$122.11

Yours truly:
E. C. Means Supt.

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April 11th 96

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Your letter of 9th inst received and following your instructions I have asked the Cashier at the Nat. Nat Bank to get a draft on Berlin, Germany for $500m or £100- payable to Miss Mary Wood Chase. As soon as it comes from Cincinnati I will forward it to her- I will charge the same to your Donation a/c. as you wished-

Enclosed find herewith an option which will be sent to all the stockholders of Means Kyle & Co for signatures. You will notice that the Means interest is generally signed and if you desire to join- please sign for Twenty seven (27) shares- You formerly had 30 but the capital has been reduced 10% this year-

Mr. Anderson thinks he can effect a sale to parties he is negotiating with in the month-

#2

Charley is at home again and looks better than when he went away- He says Aunt Lizzie and Evelyn are talking of going North this summer-

Dr. Bullard is here and Father thinks he has made him happy by giving his consent- The date has not been announced for the wedding- Father has told Ruby about both affairs and she is very excited over it all, as it appears to have been a complete surprise to her-

We are thinking of building a fence- The cows are out again-

Today is warm and spring like and I hope for a similar one tomorrow so as to take the baby out in her wagon-

With much love

Your affectionate nephew:

E. C. Means

65

April 11th 96

F. A. Hyne Esq Agent
Covington Ky
Dear Sir:

Please remit any collections you may have in hand. It is sometime since I last received any money from you and I would prefer that you be more regular in your remittances. Your last letter was dated Feby 3rd more than two months ago. I was in Cincinnati this week but did not have time to call and see you.

Yours truly,
E. C. Means

April 1st 6

Dear Aunt Margaret:

To day I forward to Miss Mary Wood Chase a draft for 2083 33/100 marks which draft cost you $500 00/100 I will charge same as you directed—

Enclosed you will find certain proxies for the Norton Iron Works meeting which please sign and I will use them at the meeting— Unless you are opposed to the reduction of the Capital Stock in which case do not sign that proxy— The intention is to reduce the Capital Stock to its approximate value as shown by the accounts of the Company and the new law making it questionable about liabilities of stockholders in proportion to their holdings (same as Ohio law) it was thought best to reduce the Capital Stock—and thereby any future liability— With love

Your affectionate nephew:

E. C. Meaver

April 1st 6

Miss Mary Wood Chase
Hollendorf Platz 7
Berlin, Germany

My dear Miss Chase:

Enclosed you will find a draft by the Ohio Valley National Bank upon Berlin Bank for Two thousand and Eighty three 33/100 Marks or in United States currency an equivalent to $500.00 - This is sent by Miss Margaret A. Means to you through me acting as her agent by her request -

Please acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours truly:

E. C. Means

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DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.

E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.

ROBERT PEEBLES, SECRETARY AND TREASURER

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED.)
Ashland, Ky., April 15th 1896
In reply to yours of

E. B. Willard Esq
Hanging Rock-
O.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find the Anderson Option. Note that it calls for all shares and every stockholder should have an opportunity to sign it. Please see to it that such opportunity is afforded.

Yours truly:
E. C. Means Supt

April 16th 96

F. A. Hyne Esq Agent
Covington Ky

Dear Sir:

Your favor 13th inst received.
I credit your account as follows:

Check	$19.25	
Bills Repairs	2.80	
"	1.95	
"	1.00	$25.00
Commission		2.50
Total		$27.50

Charging you with

Rent	Hyne collected	$22.50
	White "	5.00
	Total	$27.50

Old balance of 68 cents and uncollect rents are still due.

Please collect all you can and send check 1st of May.

Yours truly:
E. C. Means Agent
for Margt A. Means

69

April 25th 96

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Your letter of 23rd inst at hand. As requested I enclose a draft payable to your order for One thousand ($1.000.00) Dollars which I trust may reach you safely.

We had a nice shower yesterday and today it is delightful out of doors.

At the meeting of the Norton Iron Works it was decided to reduce the Capital stock 60% So your interest will be reduced from $31.000 to $12.400.00. This reduction will be charged to Profit & Loss as nothing will be paid on account of it.

The resolution to reduce secured more than the requisite number of votes.

Your funds are accumulating in bank and before investing them I shall be pleased to know if you have any particular securities you wish me to purchase for you.

I tried to purchase some more of the Eureka Company's 7% bonds but was not successful, when in Cincinnati two weeks ago.

Rose is to entertain the family with ice cream tonight.

Ruby is sewing for the baby and herself.

With love

Your affectionate nephew:

E. C. Means

M. A. M^rs 2

70

May 1st 96

William Means Esq
Yellow Springs O
Dear Sir:

Enclosed find draft on First Nat'l Bank Cincinnati for Eighty Nine ($89.00) Dollars on account Miss Margaret A. Means as per your request to her 27th ult-

Please acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours truly:
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.
(INCORPORATED)
Ashland, Ky., May 2nd 96
In reply to yours of May 1st inst

C. B. Stewart Esq
P.O. box 356
Portsmouth O

Dear Sir:

I do not wish to purchase the stock of the Portsmouth Gas Co at the figure you named. The last sale I know about was at 70¢ but I would not pay that now unless I could learn more about the affairs of the company-

Yours Truly: E. C. Means

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DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.

E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.

ROBERT PEEBLES, SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
INCORPORATED
Ashland, Ky.
In reply to yours of

May 4th 96
5th inst.

E. A. Law Esq Treas
Law Moor Iron Co
New York

Dear Sir:

The 22nd inst will suit Father and myself better than 28th inst.

My last report from Furnace B was very gratifying and getting nearer the 1200 tons per week that proper steam equipment should give us.

Yours respectfully;
E. C. Means
Pres.

May 8th 96

F. A. Hyne Esq Agent
Covington Ky
Dear Sir:

Your favor 5th inst at hand reporting collections of $25.00 for month of April.
On which you are entitled to credit as follows:

By check	$16.25	
Bills Water Rent (1)	2.75	
" " (2)	3.50	
Commission	2.50	$25.00

Try and collect the back rents which have not been paid so as to remit next month to me.

Yours truly;
E. C. Means
Agent for Margt A. Means

May 30th 96

William Means Esq
Yellow Springs O

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find Cincinnati draft for Eighty ($80.00) Dollars on account of Miss Margaret A. Means as per your request to her 28th inst. which please acknowledge and oblige

Yours truly
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

June 5th 96

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Your letter received and forwarded to Ruby who will be pleased to read it.

I enclose herewith draft for Fifty five Dollars ($55.00) in payment of the purchases you made for us and for which kindness I am very thankfull. I note what you write about the Fearing matters and will do as you direct so as not to be other than kind and lenient with the old fellow.

Today I am going over to see the little family and spend a couple of days with them. It is very lonesome here without them and being away so much I must make short trips.

Hoping that you are well and with much love

Your affectionate nephew:
E. C. Means

P. S.
$80.00 on your acct & Mrs Means on

73

June 12th 96

F. A. Heyne Esq Agent
Covington Ky
Dear Sir:

Your favor 6th inst at hand reporting collections as follows from White $5.00
Mrs. Smith 5.00
Mrs Osonick 6.00
F. A. Heyne 15 + 3% 15.10
Total 34.10

On which you are allowed credit as follows by check 21.31
" Commission 3.10
Bill, McCarty - plumbing 5.65
" Harrell - Glass 1.80
" Strotman Bros. Paper .40
" Wolf - Roof .50
" Strotman Bros Paper 1.34
9.69 9.69
34.80

Will try and see you next week
Yours truly:
E. C. Means Agent

June 13th 6

E. A. Law Esq Treas
New York

Dear Sir:

Your favor 10th inst. with enclosure at hand
I have written Mr. Patterson of Palaski Iron Co, Phila.
as follows:

"Yours of 6th inst has been forwarded to me from
" the New York office of the Law Moor Iron Co by Mr.
" E. A. Law, our treasurer. After some consultation
" by our executive officers, we have decided that for
" the present we do not desire to enter into any
" combination to regulate prices of Virginia irons.
" Thanking you for the opportunity offered
I trust the above expresses the position of
Mr Lyman & yourself—
Iron business dull here, no one buying—

With regards:

Yours respectfully:
E. C. Means Pres

June 13th 6

Abraham S. Patterson Esq Secty & Treas
Pulaski Iron Co. Philadelphia
Dear Sir:

Yours of 6th inst has been forwarded to me from the New York office of the Low Moor Iron Co by Mr. E. A. Lowe, our treasurer -

After some consultation by our executive officers we have decided that for the present we do not desire to enter into any combination to regulate prices of Virginia irons -

Thanking you for the opportunity offered I remain

Very truly yours:

E. C. Dreams Pres.
Low Moor Iron Co of Va

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.

E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.

ROBERT PEEBLES,
SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED)
Ashland, Ky., June 16th 1896
In reply to yours of 15th inst.

Robert N. Fryer Esq
Agent Phoenix Mu. Ins Co.
Cincinnati O.
203 Means Building

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find my check for $150.75 in payment first premium on policy No 140896 Phoenix Mutual Life Insurance Co of Hartford Conn dated June 12th 1896—

Yours truly: E. C. Means

P. S. I learn my mother's mother died @ about 80 yrs instead of 89— and father's mother @ 60 instead of 70.

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.

E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.

ROBERT PEEBLES,
SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED)
Ashland, Ky., June 20th 1896
In reply to yours of 17th inst.

John M. Norton Esq
Norton
Ohio

Dear Sir:

Stat' being in the market for the Norton Iron Works Stock I am not acquainted with its selling value— Perhaps D. D. Savage or M. H. Houston would be willing to purchase. I learn from others that they have lately been buyers.

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.

E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.

ROBERT PEEBLES,
SECRETARY AND TREASURER

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED.)
Ashland, Ky., June 25th 1896
In reply to yours of 19th inst.

Robt N. Fryer Genl Agt
Cincinnati
O

Dear Sir:

Thanking you for the kindly interest shown I herewith return the policy No 140975 dated June 12th 1896.

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.

E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.

ROBERT PEEBLES,
SECRETARY AND TREASURER

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED.)
Ashland, Ky., June 25 1896
In reply to yours of 23rd inst.

The Post-Glover Electric Co
215 West 4th St
Cincinnati

Gentlemen: Enclosed find my check Eighteen 30/100 Dollars in payment Fan Etc
Fan was tried last night, runs well but appears to start very slowly. as if too much friction present

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

18

June 25th 96

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Your letter enclosing one from Mrs. M. A. Lampton is at hand— I received a request from her for a loan of $15.00 and have replied as per enclosure herewith— Do you approve of it? Duly a short time ago Jake approached me for a loan of $95.00 which I declined to make and told him, he would have to ask Father or you. Also I told him that when I tried to ascertain the total amount they owed for Father & Mr. Linton's information, that he only told me part and then kept coming up other amounts ever since— The building association is all new to me again and it seems that I cannot find out the full amount then we shall—

#2 M. A. L.

He recently wrote to me that when his Father died they owed $16.000 and that now they owe $10.000— I do not understand how the reduction was effected unless they count off what Mr. Linton gave them and the amount you had to take up from the Ash. Nat Bank after you indorsed for them—

I would prefer that you make your donations direct to Aunt Margaret Lampton because I cannot keep them from going for the benefit of the others and not in the manner you wish— It is quite perplexing to say the least. After a conversation with some of them I will write to you again

We have been to the final argument in the Means case and came away satisfied that

79

#3 M.A.M.

our chances are good to win in the upper court as in the lower court.

I sent you the briefs and have intended asking you to forward a Bathes but I got a full set, except the Culbertson one, for mine.

Judges Hammonds Lurton & Severns were on the bench and from the questions they asked one judged they would uphold judge Barks opinion.

The temperature is high and the dances warm. Life is not overly pleasant under the circumstances.

Bessie Rings & Mr. Fisher of the Yellow Poplar Lumber Co are to be married 30th She is 18 and he 43. With much love. Affectionately

E. C. Means

Copy June 25th 96

Mrs. Margaret A. Lampton
Ashland Ky

Dear Aunt:

Your letter of 23rd inst received containing request for loan of Fifteen ($15.00) Dollars. This I send to you from the funds of Margaret A. Means and you will find her check enclosed for Fifteen ($15.00) Dollars.

She is not willing to undertake the payment of the debts of A and H. Lampton but will contribute to the support of yourself and Sadie.

We all sympathize with you in your misfortunes and have tried to aid in helping straighten out your affairs.

Your aff nephew
E. C. Means

80

June 25th 96

Mrs. Margaret A. Lampton
Ashland Ky

Dear Aunt:

Your letter of 23rd inst received making request for loan of Fifteen ($15.00) Dollars— This I send to you from the funds of Margaret A. Means and you will find her check enclosed for Fifteen ($15.00) Dollars—

She is not willing to undertake the payment of the debts of A and H. Lampton but will contribute to the support of yourself and Sadie—

In all sympathise with you in your misfortunes and have tried to aid in helping straighten out your affairs—

Your aff. nephew.
E. C. Means

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.
E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.
ROBERT PEEBLES, SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED.)
Ashland, Ky., June 26th 1896
In reply to your of 24th inst

F. A. Hyne Esq Agent
Covington
Ky

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find a draft for $25.00 to be used in payment of taxes due June 30th Please attend to payment. I could not get over to see you Monday but from the cars I judged the houses were pretty well filled— Yours truly
E. C. Means Agent

81

June 29th 96

William Means Esq
Yellow Springs, O.
Dear Sir:

Enclosed find Cincinnati exchange for Eighty five ($85.00) Dollars in two drafts one for $50.00 and one for $35.00 on account of Miss Margaret A. Means as per your request to her 25th inst
Please acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours truly:
E. C. Means
Agent for Margt A. Means

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.
E. O. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.
ROBERT PEEBLES, SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED)
Ashland, Ky. July 1st 1896
In reply to yours of " "

Daniels, Crombe & Co
Cincinnati
O

Gentlemen:

Enclosed find check on the Ashland National Bank for Eight Dollars ($8.00) in payment Pants April 20th 96 -

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

Ashland Ky
July 2nd 1896

J. M. Nehrer & Sons
Cincinnati O

Dear Sirs:

Enclosed find draft Ash. Nat Bank on Cincinnati Bank for $45.00 in payment bill 1st inst on Thos Means account

Yours truly
John Means
by E. C. Means

83

July 3rd 96

H.G. Merry Esq
Lawndoor Va

Dear Sir:

Yours 2nd met at hand. I note copy of Mr. Lyman's telegram and agree with him but would wait until after Chicago convention before blowing out.

I shall write to Hopkins and ask for prices paid operators and will send you reply if any is received.

What course did you take in making settlement for coal received during May and what will you take for that received during June?

It is a big undertaking to start after stopping such a plant as Lawndoor but I should favor blowing out rather than banking the furnace. The starting up is more satisfactory in getting grade of iron desired and the expence is not much greater.

#2 H.C.M. 7/3/96

We are running two furnaces here and are going slow on repairs of third. I am advising that the 3rd be left idle for the summer but am not certain that Col Putnam will follow the advice.

With regards to Mrs. Merry and the boys.

Yours truly,
E. C. Means Pres

84

July 3rd 96

J. R. Hopkins Esq
C. & O. R. C & O Ry
Richmond. Va.

Dear Sir:

Can you inform me whether the Chesapeake and Ohio Coal Agency is still in existance? Or whether on account of the recent legislation in West Virginia it has been abolished—

If it is in existance what price net (free of commissions and expenses) does it pay for New River R.O.M and New River slack to operators?

If it is not in existance what is the net market price for the New River R.O.M and slack at mines? Is it constant and fixed or is there a mutual agreement whereby the R.R. Co varies its freight rate and the coal companies their prices?

I beg you to pardon the directness of the questions but

J. R. H. + 7/3/96

the answers thereto will determine in a measure whether we will continue the Low Moor furnace in blast or will blow out indefinately—

If you are not in position to answer these inquiries please write me on receipt of this that I may advise our people promptly.

Yours very truly:

E. C. Means

Treas. Low Moor Iron Co

E. C. Means
Treas

85

July 6th 96

H. G. Merry Esq Gen Mang
Low Moor, Va.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find letter of J. W. Hopkins Agent - Please note his denial that C&O coal agency any longer exists.

I have a letter from Mr. Frank Lyman advising that Furnace at Low Moor be shut down and that he favors "blowing out".

I believe you had better at once notify Mr. M. E. Miller to stop all shipments of coal and as soon as you have used coal in bins and which may come in, allow fires to die out in coke ovens. Use all coke on yard and in stock before blowing out.

I greatly regret such a course and if there were not other reasons than the price of coal do not believe I could advise it.

#2 H&G. M.

We had a quiet 4th compared to last year - with rain in morning.

Have bought a Baldwin compressed air locomotive and Ironvalla compressor for our new plant.

Business appears to be diminishing gradually and times are getting harder.

With regards to Mrs. Merry and all

Yours truly,

E. C. Means
Prest

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.
E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.
ROBERT PEEBLES,
SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED.)
Ashland, Ky., July 6th 1896

In reply to your favor of 5th inst.

Mr J. W. Hopkins Agent
Richmond
Va

Dear Sir:

Yours wire and favor 5th inst at hand— Accept my thanks for reply to questions asked—

With regards—

Yours truly:
E. C. Means Pres
Low Moor Iron Co—

July 6th 96

Lawrence Maxwell Jr Esq
Cincinnati, O

Dear Sir:

Your draft for $4104 14/100 on Adams and Means Administrators was paid today $4000 00 by Adams & Means Administrators and 104 14/100 " John Means.

This division of payment was on account of our settlement with Mr. Hager and Mr Hobson who have each received a total of $5000 00 up to this time and, are, as well as yourself, to receive $1000 00 additional upon final settlement of the Estate. The $6000 00 to be in full, all services and expences. And we desired that our settlement in court should show an equal payment to each of the 3 attorneys. Please therefore change the enclosed receipt so as to show payment by John Means and as papers in Boyd Co. Court are liable to be lost send me a duplicate (Mark it so) receipt for the $4000 00

Wishing you a pleasant trip abroad

With regards Yours respectfully: E. C. Means

July 6th 96

Frank Lyman Esq
New York

Dear Sir:

Your favor 3rd inst at hand. After a delay of a few days I have written Mr. Merry that he had better notify Mr Miller to stop shipments of coal and prepare to "blow out" Low Moor furnace. This I understand to be in accordance with the desire of the New York directors and officers. In reply to a letter from me, Mr. J. W. Hopkins writes that the Chesapeake & Ohio Coal Agency ceased to exist in April 1895, that he as Agent for the New River and Kanawha Operators etc etc is paying $.875 for New River (proper) R.O.M and slack and $.825 Loop Creek R.O.M and slack per ton 2240 lbs. and the same has been the fixed price for two years. I have forwarded his letter to Mr. Merry. It looks as if Mr. Miller will only sell us coal when trade is brisker than at present.

P. L. # 2 7/16/96

It is not my understanding of your wishes that you also advise as yet the stoppage of the Covington Furnace - My own opinion is that the Covington Furnace should be run for a month on the Lansdown ore mixture to test its ability to make same kind of iron with present construction and finished coke -

I did not want to stop the L. St. Free until our democratic friends declared for "free silver" and thought it would have some effect elsewhere than on Miller if we waited until after the Chicago Convention - As Merry will get my letter tomorrow, 7th, it will be several days before he can use the coal on the road, in bins, ovens and in stock as coke -

Iron business very dull here, shipments are being postponed by request of buyers -

With regards;

Yours Truly;

E. C. Dawes Pres

P. S. How will it suit to have August meeting at Old Point?

July 29th 96

Mr. E. B. Willard Prest
Hanging Rock. O.
Dear Sir:

Replying to yours 27th inst.
Mr. W. C. Richardson Cashier of the Ashland Natl Bank tells me that his bank will loan your Company money at the rate of 6%- Its amount probably not to exceed $10.500- their limit to one kind of paper.
From Miss Margaret A. Means the sum of $5000= could be obtained at 6%, payable in Gold- Int & prin.
Father is away from home and at present no funds could be obtained from him.
I am going away Friday for a few days and would suggest that you take the matter up with the Bank, unless you can borrow for less elsewhere-
This warm weather is almost too much for me and am anxious for a change-
With regards:

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

91

July 30th 96

William Means Esq
Yellow Springs O

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find a draft on First Natl Bank Cincinnati payable to your order for the sum of Eighty five ($85.00) Dollars on account of Miss Margaret A Means as per your request to her dated 29th inst.

Please acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours truly;
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Aug 8th 96

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Your letter requesting drafts of three of One hundred ($100=) Dollars each was at hand on my return from Virginia, and I send herewith three drafts of One hundred ($100) Dollars each payable to your account — on 4th Nat'l Bank New York.

I left Tom, Louis & Mary, Bessie & Isabelle, Ruby & Harriet E. all enjoying the mountain air at Healing Springs, early Thursday morning — 6th.

We had a good time driving and bathing, bowling and playing whist. Bess has made quite an improvement and as we considered her the invalid of the party, all are well pleased — She is gaining strength very rapidly and Will has gone to spend Sunday with her —

The weather in Ashland has been extremely warm during the past week and every one complains.

The Hampton problem is a very difficult one to solve and it will be very hard to help the mother & daughter without helping the sons. As all live together — Perhaps after a while the matter will be in better shape to advise or to aid.

It is probable that I will be in New York on 19th inst to attend Low Moor meeting. But I will remain only a short time and return to the Springs for Ruby and the baby.

With love to yourself and regards to Miss Molly

Your affectionate nephew

E. C. Means

Aug 8th 96

F. A. Hynes Esq Agent
Covington Ky

Dear Sir:

Your letter 3rd inst at hand
Enclosing Check for $10.00 and Tax
receipt for $10.00 Water Rent Receipt $ 2.50
Old Balance as Apl 96 Letter $0.65
Check June 25th 25.00
Collections reported
June H. Osorick 6.00
July " 6.00
June S. J. Leitz 5.00
July F. A. Hynes 10.00
" Comm. 3.00 33.00 $58.65

Contra Check 3rd June $10.00
Receipt Taxes 10.00
" Water Rent 2.50
Commission 3.00 55.50
Besides Uncollected Rents Balance due $ 3.15

Yours truly:
E. C. Dreams Agent
for Margaret A. Meade

94

Aug 19th 96

Dear Aunt:

Replying to your note of yesterday permit me to state that I told Tabe several weeks ago the situation in which I stood about furnishing you with money.

I have no authority to do so for others and I do not feel able to do so on my own account

I was under the impression that Mr. Sinton paid the mortgage on the mill lots but if there is still the sum of $2000 due on them it is probable they would sell for more than that amount and I believe it would be good policy to sell them.

With kindest regards

Respectfully your nephew:

E. C. Means

Mrs. M. A. Lampton.

Aug 22nd 96

T. A. Hyne Agent

Covington Ky

Dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of 20th inst — about house on 3rd Street

You had better keep the parties in it up stairs as long as they pay their rent and try to rent the store room separately.

Please collect all the rent you can as we are in need of money these hard times, and remit every month —

Yours truly:

E. C. Means Agt

for Margaret A. Means

95

Aug 22nd 90

H.G. Merry Esq V.P.
Low Moor, Va
Dear Sir:

It may be of interest for you to know that although the Chesapeake & O. Coal Agency Co paid the New River operators 70½ cents per ton for R.O.M. coal last year that by agreement they paid but 70 cents per ton for 100,000 tons sold to the Morgan Steamship Co and that probably an equal or greater amount was sold to other parties at the reduced price.

I learned the above confidentially and am not permitted to disclose the source.

After you went away I had a talk with Mr. Lyman about getting a lease on some coal lands and promised him that you and I would try and get hold of an option on one of the New River leases and be prepared to advise whether or not to take hold with the idea of supplying Covington Furnaces.

The last report from Fer C. is such that unless the next one is better it will probably be best to blow it out without waiting until we are ready to start the Low Moor Furnaces.

What have you heard from Miller lately?

With regards to Mrs Merry and the boys

Yours truly:
J.C. Means

...AS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
...N G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT
E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.
ROBERT PEEBLES, SECRETARY AND TREASURER

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED.)

Ashland, Ky., Aug 24th 1896
In reply to yours of 21st

Thos A. Mack Esq
Cincinnati
O

Dear Sir: Father goes to Hot Springs Virginia this week from New York. He is not in best of health, needs a few hot baths to make his blood circulate. New York end of Law Mass Co not pleased with present out look. Takes too much borrowed capital to carry stocks of iron. No remedy now but McKinleys election sure.

Yours truly: E. C. Means

Frank Lyman goes to Wyoming for 2 good hunt Goggles Cut Tiger

Aug 29th 96

William Means Esq
Gellow Springs O
Dear Sir:

Enclosed find a draft on the 1st Natl Bank Cincinnati O for Eighty five ($85) Dollars on account of Miss Margaret A. Means as per your request to her, 28th end. Please acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours truly:
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Sept 12th 96

D. R. Bishop Esq
Hawks Nest. W. Va
Dear Sir:

Replying to yours 9th inst.
Since seeing Mr. Warner I have been very busy and have not yet made any arrangement with Mr Merry as to time of visit to New River.
Will let you know in ample time as it may be a month before I can get away.

Yours truly:
E. C. Weaver

Sept 12th 96

H. G. Merry Esq G.M.
Low Moor. Va

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find some correspondence on the subject of the Brown Coal lease, one of the Low leases and the one next to a section still unleased as I understand. Mr. Warner has also made me several propositions on Sunny Side "Thomas Coke Co" viz (1) to sell outright for $22.500 free of all debt. Royalty is 10¢ per ton but he thinks $3.500 will buy Effingers interest in land and thereby save 5¢. Lease has 5 yrs to run and owners of land are to pay cash for improvements (2) Or we can take charge and allow them the stock provided we mine 250 tons daily. (3) Or they would like to have us offer 75 cents per ton for coal. In fact they will consider almost any proposition.

The Brown Lease could probably be bought for $10.000 less than stated in letter.

#2

Am unable to state just when I can meet you but I doubt if I can get away before October—

This hot weather is not pleasant but inspite of it every thing is running full tilt this month, 3 furnaces & mines— nearly every thing else in town is idle

Great crowds are going to hear Bryan speak in Lexington and Maysville next week— Still I believe McKinley is gaining— Senator Teller speaks here 19th inst

With regards to yourself, Mrs M. and the boys

Yours truly;

E. C. Means

100

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.

E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.

ROBERT PEEBLES, SECRETARY AND TREASURER

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
INCORPORATED
Ashland, Ky. Sept 23rd 1896
In reply to yours of 21st

F. A. Laidley Esq
Cincinnati
Ohio

Dear Sir:

The Cashier of the Ash. Nat'l Bank tells me that he will renew the Co's note as you proposed in letter to me — Am pleased to know the years business to date has been profitable.

Yours truly,
E. C. Means

Sept 26th 96

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Replying to your letter of 22nd inst. — Enclosed herewith you will New York drafts, three (3) of One hundred ($100-) Dollars each as you requested — Which I hope may reach you in good season. Today I leave for Hot Springs Va and will spend Sunday with Father Rose has been at Low Moor for a few days — so I presume he is a little better —

Yesterday I had a long horseback ride with Sam Seaton and afterwards rode into Ash. from Rush on a bicycle. So you see I am getting strong again. Mr. Anderson is getting another option on the stock of Means, Kyle & Co. which I will forward later for your signature.

Weather here is delightfull —

With love to yourself and regards to Miss Polly. Your affectionate nephew

E. C. Means

Sept 29th 96

Dear Father:

Herewith find Two newYork drafts for Two hundred ($200.00) Dollars Each made payable to your order.

Saw Mack in Cincinnati. He said that his Mr. Wallingford had spent a week at French Lick Springs and that they are recommended for malaria. Did not see Mr. Halloway.

Called on Mr. Linton and found him at his office attending to business as usual

Aunt Amandas injuries from her fall have proven more serious than I told you she is still in bed and can only use one arm. Charley talks of getting a professional nurse and calling up a Cincinnati doctor.

Mr. Griffith at the Citizens Bank says there is no doubt that Major McKinley will be elected but business has not improved very much.

With love to all Your aff Son

E. C. Means

102

Sept 30th 96

William Means Esq
Yellow Springs, Ohio
Dear Sir:

Enclosed find draft on First Natl Bank of Cincinnati for Eighty-Five ($85.00) Dollars on account of Miss Margaret A. Means as per your request to her 28th inst.

Please acknowledge receipt of that amount and oblige

Yours truly,
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Oct 2nd 96

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Replying to your favor of 29th ult. I enclose a draft on the 4th National Bank of Newyork payable to your order for One thousand ($1,000.00) Dollars which I trust will reach you safely—

Uppermost in the thoughts of all of us here is the sad accident which has befallen Aunt Amanda, about which Ruby wrote last night. Poor Lizzie is nearly ready to give up and needs cheering up— With Evelyn alone in Ashville and with knowledge of her mothers true condition, they are afraid Evelyn will not write when she herself is worse, if she should be so. And the Doctors have given a very gloomy account of the probable result of Aunts injuries— A long, long seige in bed if not fatal—

#2 M. A. M.

If some one could be with Evelyn that Lizzie felt confidence in, it would greatly relieve her—

Father is not well yet but it seemed to me that he is not as sick as he was before and that after a visit at home if he finds he cannot meet people generally, he should go to other springs— He needs exercise and occupation as much as medicine— and the exertions required in the law suit were really beneficial. Now when that is over and he sits awaiting in suspense for the verdict, he is not well—

Your letter of 30th ult at hand enclosing two from Mrs. Lampton— My advice is that you continue as now giving the assistance yourself— I am too near and can be reached too often— Last Monday I called on Mr. Linton

#3 M. 1. 11

in Cincinnati and his first remarks were about the Lamptons. He said he had given them a large amount in all nearly "$10.000-" and that requests for more were continually being received. Said Mrs Taft would call on you in Newyork to talk it over.

It has been difficult to get at the straight of their affairs but it appears to be about this.
Mr. Robt Lampton died with more obligations than assets and that the property held by himself & wife could not be sold for sufficient to pay all the obligations.

You have notes for unsecured and int due	$1525.
Father approximately but secured by mortgage	6000.
Mr. Sinton has advanced as gifts probably or more say $5000 applied on debts	5000-

#4 M. 4. 11.

On his named members say $12000 probably the full value of all the property has been received from you three but not a piece of property has been sold. The tale of woe comes regularly but no real estate is sold to help meet debts or even living expenses.

From now on it will only be necessary to do as you are doing and when large amounts are requested advise that something be sold, especially that property which brings no rental.

This confidential and is simply my own opinion you are at liberty to do as you please and may command my assistance whenever you desire it.

With much love to yourself & Polly

Your affectionate nephew
E. C. Mearns.

Oct 10th 6

F. A. Hyne Esq Agent
Covington Ky
Dear Sir:

Your favor 9th inst at hand—
Balance over uncollected rents Aug 8th 96 $3.18
You report rents collected Aug & Sept

H. Osorich	$6.00	
Mrs White	5.00	
F. A. Hyne	10.00	21.00
Commission applied on Hynes Rents		2.10
	Total	$26.28

Received [illegible] A. Hyne check $9.65
Bills [illegible] 6.80
[illegible] 6.05
[illegible] .60
2.10 25.20

Besides [illegible] balance due $1.08
In re[illegible] rent, I recognize
the fo[illegible] very hard and am
ville[illegible] is right about it—
Jave[illegible] again try and get
eno[illegible]ted to pay them—
[illegible] truly;
E. C. Means Agent

The Annual Meeting of Stockholders of the Cincinnati, Portsmouth, Big Sandy and Pomeroy Packet Company will be held at the office of the Company in Cincinnati, on Tuesday, the 12th day of January, 1897, between the hours of ten and twelve o'clock, A. M., for the election of a Board of seven Directors, to serve the ensuing year, and the transaction of such other business as may be brought before the meeting.

Geo. P. Guggenheimer Secretary.

Oct 10th 6

F. A. Hyne Esq Agent
Covington Ky
Dear Sir:

Your favor 9th mat at hand—
Balance over uncollected rents Aug 8th 96 $3.18
You report rents collected Aug & Sept

H. Osorick	$6.00	
Wm White	5.00	
F. A. Hyne	10.00	21.00
Commission applied on Hynes Rents		2.10
Total		$26.28

Received F. A. Hyne Check	$9.65	
Bills Manwaring & Collopy	6.80	
The W. G. Snyder Co	6.05	
Stephens & Scales	.60	
Commission allowed	2.10	25.20

Besides Uncollected rents Oct 1st Balance due $1.08
In reference to your own rent, I recognize the fact that times are very hard and am willing to do whatever is right about it—
Taxes will soon be due again try and get enough money collected to pay them—

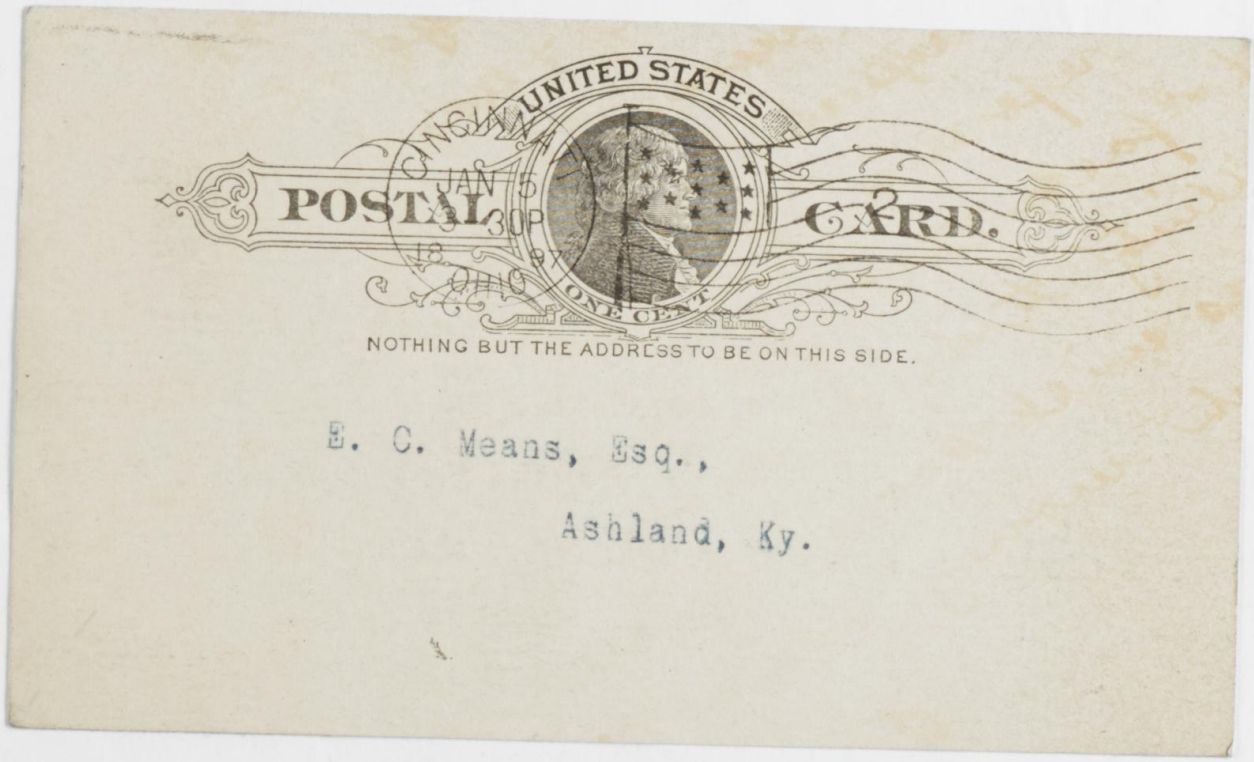
Yours truly;
E. C. Means Agent

Loose Item

The Annual Meeting of Stockholders of the Cincinnati, Portsmouth, Big Sandy and Pomeroy Packet Company will be held at the office of the Company in Cincinnati, on Tuesday, the 12th day of January, 1897, between the hours of ten and twelve o'clock, A. M., for the election of a Board of seven Directors, to serve the ensuing year, and the transaction of such other business as may be brought before the meeting.

Geo P Ruggles Secretary.

Loose Item


UNITED STATES
POSTAL
CARD.
ONE CENT
NOTHING BUT THE ADDRESS TO BE ON THIS SIDE.
E. C. Means, Esq.,
Ashland, Ky.

Oct 13th 6

E. B. Millard Esq Pres
Hanging Rock O
Dear Sir:

Replying to your favor 12th inst. Regarding oil lease to Robinson Bros, would favor a lease on two sections only unless sections were alternated in 40 or 160 acre lots so that Company would be apt to have reservations in possible oil territory under such circumstances would be willing to lease three sections of 640 acre each. Would not be willing to make any terms as to the remainder of the Company's property in connection with the granting of the lease. I should like to see the lease before it is signed. Regarding Ore, Col Putnam would not be willing to buy Ohio Fe ore at $2.25 when he can buys a better ore for a less price. I refer to the Slate Creek ore.

Am of the opinion that it will pay to test the Jackson County ore on your next blast beginning in a small way.

Yours truly
E. C. Means Supt

Oct 22nd 6

F. A. Laidley Esq Gen'l Mang
Cincinnati O

Dear Sir:

The Cashier of the Ashland Nat'l Bank has promised to renew the note as you suggested in your letter of 19th inst.

Am pleased to receive the Mail Line report as per your letter of 21st inst and to know of its profits.

Can you send me a statement of the Big Sandy Co? I have heard nothing to indicate what they are doing.

Have been putting coal on the river lately two grades mixed @ 2 4/5 ¢ and Pea or Slack @ 2 2/3 ¢ per bus. which I trust you will find highly satisfactory.

With regards

Yours truly

E. C. Means

Oct 22nd 6

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Replying to your letter 20th inst I enclose herewith a draft payable to your order on the Fourth National Bank as you requested for the sum of One thousand ($1,000.00) Dollars which I trust will reach you safely—

The letter you enclosed will be put away among others you have sent here— I have not seen Mr. Anderson lately—

Louise & Mary came home yesterday—

Father improves very slowly and does not go down town but drives out into the country— Aunt Amanda has her "good days" and "bad days" We usually hear that she has either "rested well" or "had a poor night"— It must be very trying to have to lie in bed as she is compelled to do—

We hope that when you go to Asheville that you will pass here and make us a visit either as you go or as you return— We shall pleased to see you and will try to entertain you in quietude or gaity as you prefer—

Saw Spalding's safety vault boxes might suit you better than a safe for your papers—

With love from Ruby, Harriet Evelyn and your aff. nephew

E. C. Meade

Oct 27th 6

E. A. Law Esq Treas
New York

Dear Sir:

Today I am in receipt of a letter from Mr. Merry enclosing copy of a letter from Mr. Miller dated 25th inst.

I note that Mr. Miller makes the point that the coke purchased from the Fire Creek Coal & Coke Co should be paid for in any event. I think Mr. Miller is correct and would advise that the payment be made for the coke. If the payment is not made, as a favor to Mr. A. Augustus Low, then he should agree to protect the Low Moor Iron Co, against any claims for damage on account of the Fire Creek Coal & Coke Co.

Mr. Merry was to meet me on New River tomorrow to look over some of the coal properties there but now writes that owing to a severe cold he may not be able to do so.

In August Mr. Francis Lynman thought it might be a good policy to acquire an interest in one of the New River coal properties.

With regards. Yours respectfully;

E. C. Means Pres.

Mr Low hopes that Kentucky will be for Mr Stanley.

Oct 30th 96

William Means Esq.
Yellow Springs O

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find a draft on the First National Bank of Cincinnati for Eighty Five ($85.00) Dollars on account of Miss Margaret A. Means as per your request to her 28th inst. Please acknowledge the receipt of that amount from her and oblige

Yours truly;

E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

110

Nov 3rd 6

H. G. Merry Esq G. M.
Low Moor Va
Dear Sir:

With Mr. P. B. Warner, I made a visit to the mine of the Thomas Coal Co at Sunnyside and of the Brown Coal Co at Nuttall. We regretted very much that you were unable to be with us.
The coal at the Thomas mine appeared to be of good quality and free from sulphur but was only of an average height of 41 inches. Mining was expensive owing to the low coal and the large bank-wagons in use - which necessitated taking up the slate bottom in order to reach the working faces. There seemed to be a large amount of water to contend with. The lease has 5 years to run and the royalty is 10 cents per ton. 2240 lbs. coke = 1½ tons coal. I estimated that there was about 150 acres of coal remaining unmined - or about 450.000 tons. A body of land lies back of the present lease which can be made available by lease or by purchase, 300 acres. The present plant can be acquired by paying its debts $22.500.00 There are 15 coke ovens -

Alb. N # 2

Certain conditions in the lease require the lessors to purchase all improvements at an appraisement when the lease terminates. They have 85 mine cars, 11 mules, 1 store and 35 dwelling houses, 1 stable-12 stalls, 1 shop. Part of the dwelling houses & the store belong to the lessors. I have requested a map of the mine.

The present lessees would be glad to contract for a supply of coal to be furnished to your company. Their average output has been but 20000 tons annually.

The Brown Co's lease you are acquainted with. The average thickness of the coal is 44 inches and my observation was that it contains some sulphur, more than the Thomas Co's coal. I asked for analyses but they had none. Their total expenditures have been between $30.000 and $35.000. Roughly estimating I could account for about $27.000. They have probably removed 60000 tons of coal. Have 4 mules - 47 mine cars. The entries appeared to be in good condition with little water to bother. I asked Mr. Boone for a proposition based on $35.000 we to take care of Mayers Commission

#3

but he declined to give it. However I learned that the Brocks are anxious to sell their interest and when we see fit to make any offers, their influence will aid us in getting lowest figures.

Mr. & Mrs. Bishop entertained us at Sunnyside and the trip was a very pleasant one.

There is general complaint of dull times and it looks to me as if there are so many mines on New River that it will be a long time before all get full working time.

I trust that by this time your cold is cured and all are well.

With regards to yourself & Mrs. Merry, who has had our heartfelt sympathy on account of her bereavement,

Yours truly,

E. C. Means Supt

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED)
Ashland, Ky., Nov 9th 1896
In reply to yours of 30th Oct.

The Robert Clarke Co
Cincinnati
Ohio

Gentlemen:

Enclosed find my check for $14.40 in payment bill to Mrs Means 30th ult—

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT
ROBERT PEEBLES, SECRETARY AND TREASURER

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED)
Ashland, Ky., Nov 10th 1896
In reply to yours of 9th

P. B. Warner Esq
Cincinnati
O

Dear Sir:

Your favor 9th inst with enclosures at hand—
Will take the matter up with our people at Low Moor next week

Yours truly:
E. C. Means Supt

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT
E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT
ROBERT PEEBLES, SECRETARY AND TREASURER
OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED.)
Ashland, Ky., Nov 14 1896
In reply to yours of 12th

P. B. Warner Esq
217 Johnston Bund'ing
Cincinnati

Dear Sir: Have tracing today from Mr. Bishop but none from Mr. Boone—

Marietta boys play nice, clean game of Foot Ball but while they might beat C.U. don't you believe Cinti people would be prejudiced against them? Next year would be better time—

Yours truly; E. C. Means

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT
E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT
ROBERT PEEBLES, SECRETARY AND TREASURER
OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED.)
Ashland, Ky., Nov 14th 1896
In reply to yours of 12th inst

D. R. Bishop Esq
Hawks Nest Pd
W. Va

Dear Sir:

Your favor 12th inst and tracing are at hand—

Thanking you for the tracing and with regards to yourself & Mrs Bishop

Yours truly:

E. C. Means

Nov 23rd 96

P. B. Warner Esq
Cincinnati O
Dear Sir:

Replying to your favor of recent date -

At our recent Law Maor meeting it was the opinion of those present that before we decided to purchase any New River property more time should be taken to look into the matter. We decided to allow both options obtained through you to lapse - You will therefore be kind enough to inform Mr Boone that we will not accept his proposition and will not tie it up any longer with an option -

We were offered one tract of 1000 acres of about same height coal at Thomas Co @ 20¢ per acre

Thanking you for your efforts and regretting that nothing can result therefrom at this time I remain

Yours truly: E. C. Meaux

Nov 26th 6

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Your favor of 24th inst at hand - It was too late yesterday to get the New York draft for Mrs Sarah McChesney but tomorrow I shall send her one for the sum of One hundred and sixty ($160.00) Dollars You write that you have paid her up to the first Tuesday in November (3rd) and that you wish me to pay her up to first Tuesday in January - Am I to understand that your payment was in full to November 3rd and this payment of $160.00 will be in full until December 1st four weeks, and later I am to send $200.00 for five weeks or until January 5th 1907 - Or is the present payment of $160.00 in full for four weeks beginning December 1st and ending Dec 28th (Monday) - I will ask Mrs McChesney to receipt stating dates covered by payment -

William Means has for past few months made monthly a request for Eighty five ($85) Dollars which I have sent to him from your funds as you directed - At the end of the year I will make the usual reports for your approval.

M. S. M. #2

Nov 26th 6

Recently Mr. David Sinton wrote to me that he has begun giving Aunt Mary Longstreet a quarterly allowance of $100 or $400 per year. I will enclose his letter which you may return to me. My views in this matter are unchanged from those recently written to you and I have no comments to make on his letter. It has been read by Father.

I have been thinking of buying some Cincinnati Street Railway stock for you. It has been paying 5% annually in dividends and has a market value of 110 to 115 — or in other words sells for a premium of 10 or 15%. You have two street railway stocks and I should like an opinion from you about the investment. I believe it is equal at any rate to the average investment and the Company has recently received some favorable extensions of franchises.

With love to yourself & Evelyn.

Your affectionate nephew

E. C. Means

as you directed. At the end of the year I will make the usual report for your approval.

Nov 26th 6

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Your proxy reached Law Moor and voted for the Board of Directors — Our meeting was very pleasant and the dividend of 1½% was declared —
The Merrys had a 5 days old boy to show us. We staid at the Covington Hotel.
Some one has probably written to you about our Scarlet Fever case — Dr. Montmollin called the rash or heat development on Harriet Evelyn by that name — Not being satisfied with his diagnosis of the case we afterwards — 3 or 4 days later — called in Dr Wade and he decided that Montmollin was mistaken. Wade came each day for 3 successive days so we believe him to have been right in his opinion. Acting on his advice we attended the wedding last night and saw the happy couple united in a very pretty marriage ceremony —
Every thing went off smoothly and was pronounced an unqualified success — Not being able to describe such events I shall leave it to others — Affectionately your nephew

E. C. Mean

Nov 27th 6

Mrs. Sarah McChesney
No 46 West 21st Street
New York

My dear Madam:

Enclosed find a draft on the Fourth Nat'l Bank of New York for One hundred and sixty ($160.00) Dollars on account of Miss Margaret A. Means, which amount she has instructed me to forward to you in payment of her room and board. Please acknowledge receipt, stating dates covered by payment.

Very respectfully
E. C. Means
Agent for Margaret A. Means

Nov 28th 6

Nov 28th 6

W. J. Crain Esq
Marietta O
Dear Sir;

Replying to yours 21st inst.
Your letter came here just after my return from the Low Moor annual meeting.
As you suggest it is a difficult matter to handle when Mr. Merry is buying his oil at less than cost.
While I should prefer the Argand getting the Low Moor business on equal prices I cannot see my way clear to interfere in the present case. No doubt the Standard people will not long continue to sell for such low figures and then the business will come your way again. Mr. Merry will naturally lean to your side but knowing him to be deeply interested in every saving possible for the Low Moor Co., he can always be counted as a close buyer.
Sorry some of you did not come down with the Foot Ball Eleven

Yours truly;
E. C. Means

Enclosure returned herewith

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Nov 28th 96

William Means Esq
Yellow Springs Ohio
Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith find a draft for Eighty ($80=) Dollars on First National Bank Cincinnati on account of and from the funds of Miss Margaret A Means as per your request to her 26th inst.

Please acknowledge the receipt of the above amount from her and oblige

Yours truly
E. C. Means
Agent for Margt A. Means

Dec 7th 96

William H. Guild & Co.
#11 Bromfield Street
Boston, Mass

Gentlemen:

Enclosed find my check on the Ashland National Bank, Twenty one 45/100 Dollars in payment for subscriptions as follows:

Harpers Weekly (renewal) Thos H. Means,	Ashland, Kentucky	$3.45
Cosmopolitan (renewal) Willis L. Ringo,	Ashland, Kentucky	1.00
Judge (renewal) Harold Means,	Ashland, Kentucky	4.25
Judge (renewal) W. B. Seaton,	Ashland, Kentucky	4.25
Judge (renewal) W. E. Maynard	#140 Sixth Ave Brooklyn N.Y	4.25
Judge (New) Dr. L. Bullard.	Waukesha, Wisconsin.	4.25
		$21.45

Please acknowledge receipt

Yours truly: E. C. Means

4.25
25.70

Ashland Ky Dec 7th 96

William H. Guild & Co
Boston Mass

Gentlemen:

Enclosed find check for $4.25 in payment of yrs subscription for "Judge" to be sent to

William N. Mayo
Ashland Ky

Please acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

Dec 7th 96

Irwin Ellis & Ballmann
Cincinnati O

Gentlemen:

Please purchase the par value of $5000.00 Cincinnati Street Railway Stock and make certificate in the name of Miss Margaret A. Means, Ashland, Ky. Send bill for same to her in care of

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

Dec 11th 6

Irwin, Ellis & Ballmann
Cincinnati, O.

Gentlemen:

Your favor 9th inst by registered mail. came too late to remit in Cincinnati Exchange yesterday—

Herewith I enclose Cincinnati Exchange payable to your order for $5.575 00/100 in payment 100 shares Cincinnati Street Railway Stock, certificate #36513 in name of Margaret A. Means @ 111½—

Thanking you for your promptness and regretting the delay.

Yours truly;

E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means—

Dec 11th 6

Dear Aunt Margaret.

Replying to yours 9th inst.
Herewith find Enclosed four New York
drafts for One Hundred ($100.00) Dollars each
payable to your order from your funds.
Also one of Eleven 74/100 ($11.74) Dollars from
my funds to pay Ruby's account.
I have purchased for you 100 shares of
the Cincinnati Street Railway Stock. Shares
are $50.00 each the total cost being $5.575.00
or a premium of 11½ %.
The lines embrace nearly all in Cincinnati so
it will not be much trouble to see some
of the cars when you are in Cincinnati.
Am glad to learn you are feeling so well
in Asheville and hope it may continue so.
Ruby is busy with her Christmas presents
and has succeeded in getting Hamish Evelyn
interested in Santa Claus.
Charley is waiting for me to go home.
With much love in which he joins
Your affectionate nephew
E. C. Means.

Dec 15th 96

E. B. Millard Esq Pres.
Hanging Rock O
Dear Sir:

Yesterday Hon. Julius L. Anderson was here in connection with option, now outstanding on the stock in hands of L. & O., given to Columbus parties.

He informed me that an expert accountant would soon be sent down from Columbus to look over the accounts and make a report on the earnings of the company during a period of years. [illegible] and trustworthy gentleman [illegible] so that no question could be raised on the issue.

Yesterday I talked with [illegible] such an examination and we are agreed that when the expert comes to Hanging Rock, he should be afforded every facility and assistance in arriving at the true results of the business for as many years past as he may wish to [illegible]

#2

As I remember the terms of the option, those signing it made the request that such an opportunity should be given.

C. W. Means informed me that Capt Culbertson also favored a full showing of accounts.

Father does not want the results of the examination made public hereabouts, for the benefits of your competitors in the iron business, and it might be well to call attention to his desires in that respect.

The question of it being a wise move to allow our books to be examined is debatable but after all of us having signed the option, it is now too late to discuss it.

It appears from Mr. Anderson's conversation that the Columbus parties have been afraid of some opposition on your part to such an examination but I have assured him that you were only waiting until an accredited expert should come and did not desire indiscriminate searching by different parties and at various times - telling him also that you had advised with [illegible] about it when O'Connell was interested.

Dec 16th 6

F. A. Laidley Esq
Pres't & Gen'l Mang'r
Cincinnati. O.

Dear Sir:

Permit me to introduce Mr. J. L. Hall a representative of the Argand Oil Co of Marietta Ohio. Mr. Hall is anxious to secure some of the business of supplying oil to the numerous boats under your control. He is acquainted with Mr. Paris Brown of the boat store and can sell the oil either direct to the Packet lines or to the boat store as you may prefer.

While Father & myself are not interested in the boat store we are in the oil Company that Mr. Hall represents and would both be pleased to learn that the Argand oils were being used on the boats

With best regards

Yours truly

E. C. Means

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Dec 22nd 96

William Means Esq
Yellow Springs Ohio
Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith find draft on Cincinnati Bank for Eighty Five ($85-) Dollars payable to your order, on account of Miss Margaret A. Means as per your request to her 21st Inst.

Please acknowledge the receipt of that amount from her and oblige

Yours truly,
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Dec 28th 6

Mrs Sarah McCleary
#6 West 20th Street
Newyork

My dear Madam:

Enclosed you will please find a draft on the Third National Bank of Newyork payable to your order, which is for the sum of One Hundred and Sixty ($160.00) Dollars, in payment of room rent of Miss Margaret A. Means from Dec 29 to Jany 26th 1877. Please acknowledge receipt of same and oblige

Yours respectfully,

E. A. Means

Agent for Margaret A. Means

Dec 30th 6

F. A. Hayne Esq Agent
Covington Ky
Dear Sir:

The insurance on the buildings expires on Jany 6th 1897— It was for $833.33 on the brick building #302 Main Street
$333.33 " " " " 304 " "
$333.34 " " " " 169 Mst 3rd Strat
$2500 Total— Premium $20= for 5 years
The old policy is in the Southern Assurance Co of London & C.A. Farnham & Co Agents were in Hawkshaw Building Rooms 5.6 & 7. Cor 4th & Vine Cincinnati.

You can reinsure in any reliable company in the name of Miss Margaret A. Means—
Please send me your statement as early in January as possible and attend to the taxes
Yours truly:
E. C. Means Agent

Dec 30th 6

The Cincinnati Safe Deposit & Trust Co
Cincinnati O

Gentlemen:

Enclosed find a draft on Cincinnati Bank for Twenty ($20.00) Dollars in payment premium for renewal of Safe in name of W B Seaton & E C Means

Yours truly

E C Means

Janry 2nd 6

Mr. H G. Chamberlain Sec't & Treas
Marietta Ohio

Dear Sir:

Your favor 1st inst enclosing check for $50.00 — dividend — duly received thanking you for the same and wishing a happy & prosperous New year

Yours truly

E. C. Means

Jany 2nd 97

F. A. Hyne Esq Agent
Covington Ky
Dear Sir:

Your letter of Dec 31st is at hand. I wrote to you Dec 30th about the insurance. Just why no insurance was taken on the house No 300 Main Street I have forgotten. The rates have more than doubled since 1892 when the last insurance was taken. Under the circumstances, you had better insure as follows:

No 300	Main Street	$750	for 3 yrs
" 302	" "	$600	" 3 "
" 304	" "	$500	" 3 "
" 169	West Third Street	$750	" 3 "
	Total	$2500	" 3 "

While it is probable that the losses are worth considerable more than $2500 - That is all the insurance I want to carry at this time - Be sure and have the policy in the name of Margaret A. Means

Yours truly;

E. C. Means Agent

Jany 2nd 97

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Your favor of Dec 31st '96 arrived this morning - I found enclosed your check on the Ashland Natl Bank, payable to my order, for the sum of Eight hundred ($800.00) Dollars in payment for my services as your agent and attorney in fact.

I desire to thank you sincerely for your very substantially expressed appreciation of my services during the past year - You have paid me so liberally now and in the past that I feel very grateful for the opportunity to be of service to you. Having learned from experience that it is useless to raise the question of whether you are not paying too much for my care of your affairs, I shall accept the check and deposit in the bank to my credit and charge it to your expense account, as you shall later see from the statement you will receive.

As heretofore the trial balance will be taken at the close of business hours Jany 2nd thus allowing checks received today to be shown.

Government Interest + Cincinnati Street Ry Dividends

#2- M. A. M- 1/2/97

Mrs. McChesney has been paid from Dec 29th 96 to Jany 26th 1897. Her letter acknowledging receipt of the "check" ($160.00) is dated Dec 30th 96. She neglected to acknowledge the amount of the check so hereafter I shall send her a receipt ready to be signed-

She sent her ruled paper, "Black lines," by mistake so I send it to you. It has some figures on the back, which will give you an excuse for returning it her. She might not appreciate a joke from me-

In arranging for insurance on your Covington houses, I find rates have more than doubled- Rents have gone down and collections are very hard to make. The plea of hard times being only too true- I have advised Mr. F. A. Hynes, the agent, to use his best judgement and collect what he can- I expect to see him this month and will learn more about the true condition of tenants-

Considerable repairs have been made on the Kilgore property: With much love and another "thank you"- Your affectionate nephew-

E. C. Means

Jany 5th 7

A. & H. Lampton
Ashland, Ky
Gentlemen!

Learning that you have found it expedient to make an assignment, I desire to call your attention to the notes drawn by your firm in favor of Margaret A Means in dates and amounts as follows:

July 7th 1893 - due four months - $225.00 -
July 17th 1893 - " " " - 450.00 -
Aug 18th 1893 - " " " - 450.00 -
Sept 17th 1893 - " " " - 400.00 -

all payable at the Ashland National Bank -

If you have not already given a list of these notes to the assignee please do so now.

Yours truly!

E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Jany 5th 97

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Herewith find following:

(1) A Trial Balance from your books of account.
(2) The Profit & Loss account.
(3) The Expenses, Donations, Taxes, Repairs & Commission accounts.
(4) The Dividends, Interest & Rents accounts.
(5) List of Notes & Bills Receivable.

Jan 3rd 1896 to Jany 2nd 1897 inclusive was considered as the business year of 1896.

If there are any other accounts or statements that you would like to have made I shall be pleased to make them upon receiving your request.

You will notice that there is quite a large sum in bank to be invested, say over $7000 after retaining the $3,000 you wish to be kept ready for call. I have not decided where to invest next and would be glad to have any suggestions.

A. & H. Lampton I learn today have made an assignment but have not been up town yet and am not acquainted with the particulars. It was probably the wise thing to do.

#2

They have never paid any thing on their notes to you since 1893 and I believe it is advisable that the list and amount of their notes should be placed before the assignee— If you get anything out of the wreck it could be used to aid Stumbaugh in the manner you proposed— I shall drop in and have a talk with Gabe—

We are having a snow storm today and it has become considerable colder— Sunday we could have sit out of doors—

Yesterday I mailed two proxies for your signature— As I shall be in Cincinnati on the 12th, the proxy for the Ironton bank is made in name of W B Seaton— Com Adams being a director could not act as proxy—

Have had the John Peters note in Andersons care for a time but he returned it and was not able to get any payment on it— After Louis Fearing has been dead over one year will take some steps about his note— The family pay the taxes on the property—

With love— Your affectionate nephew

E C Means

Jany 9th 97

F. A. Styne Esq Agent
Covington, Ky

Dear Sir:

Your favor 6th inst at hand enclosing Insurance Policy & bill for same $43 43/100

Your report for Oct, Nov. & Dec. collections has not yet been received —

I find that during the past year you have sent in checks to the amount of $91.56 and I have sent your checks for 40.00

leaving a balance of — — — $51.56

that the property has returned to Miss Means Now this amount is too little and last years collections should pay more than Taxes, Repairs, Water Rents, commissions and Insurance by $8.43 which is all that is left if I should send you a check for the insurance of $43 43/100.

I shall be down in Cincinnati next week and will stop at the Grand Hotel Monday night If you will not be at home Tuesday afternoon come over to the hotel between 7 and 8 o'clock Monday night and see me about this matter and bring your account or my letters with you.

Yours truly E. C. Means

Jany 9th 97

Frank Lejman Esq
High Point. N.C.
Dear Sir:

Your message 7th & postal 7th inst duly received—

Mr. J. A. Boone with Mr. P. B. Warner came here on short notice and my letter to you was written hurridly, so that you could keep posted on the Brown Coal property— While I did not want to go hurridly into the scheme I thought perhaps Mr. John Ham had acquainted you with more of the scheme than I could write and get my letter away on next mail— I was favorably impressed with the property as I saw it in October and would have been willing to have gone into the company in order to have secured it for Low Moor— Hence the condition of the purchase of the Brown's half interest was to be based on an option on the balance— If you, your father & Mr. Low had favored the plan togather with my father & myself, we could have had it carried out—

F. L. #2

If on the other hand Lane Moor did not want to purchase, I believe it is property that could be made to earn good returns on the investment, hence I was willing to enter into a purchase of one half of the capital stock.

It is possible that when the Boone people give the Browns an option on their half interest, the Browns will be unable to purchase or sell it. Then a new proposition at a less price may be made to us. The liabilities I understand were less than the value of the goods in store.

Iron business is very dull and consists largely of hopes for future business.

With regards

Yours respectfully

E. C. Means

Jany 13th 7

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Your letters of 7th and 11th inst. came duly to hand—

Herewith I enclose a draft on the Third National Bank of Newyork payable to your order for the sum of Four hundred ($400) Dollars as you requested—

We have about 3 inches of snow on ground today but as yet have not had enough cold weather to stop navigation in the Ohio River—

When in Cincinnati this week I talked to the Covington Agent, Mr. Hines, about the rents which have been very small in amount during the past year— He has had great difficulty to keep the houses occupied and still greater to collect the rentals. The houses can only be rented to an inferior class of renters and they have had such hard times to earn a living that they have been unable to pay their rent and keep moving about— The houses still need repairs and about all that can be expected from them will be Taxes, Insurance & Repairs during the coming year— With better times more rents will be received from them—

#2 M.A.M. 1/13/97

So far I have heard nothing more about the assignment of A. & H. Lampton — Have no idea of their assets & liabilities — It is probable that they can get more from renting their store than by conducting the drug business —

The annual meeting of the Ash. Nat. Bank will be held today and I presume John Russell Jr. will be elected to the vacancy, created by the death of his father, in the directory —

Had a fire at the Clinton Brick Works last night but no great damage resulted —

The Norton nail mill is running full time now and we hope will have good business at paying prices —

Hamilton Furnace has started again after a 3 mos stoppage for repairs —

With love to yourself and Evelyn

Your affectionate nephew,

E. C. Means

Jany 18th 97

E. B. Willard Esq Pres
Hanging Rock O
Dear Sir:

Replying to yours 15th inst
In view of the option now outstanding
on all the stock of Means Kyle & Co I
believe it best to await the annual meeting
in April before making any additional
sales of lands.

Parties contemplating a purchase can
probably be induced to wait until then
for a final decision on your part.

Reports received weekly indicate that
furnace has started off in good shape for
this campaign. I trust sales can be made
at prices yielding a profit.

Yours truly
E. C. Means

Janu 18th 7

Walker & Lehman
519 Addison Ave
Covington Ky
Gentlemen:

Enclosed find a draft on First National Bank of Cincinnati O issued by the Ashland National Bank in your favor for Thirty seven 35/100 Dollars In payment your bill F. A. Hyne Agent for Margaret A. Means for policy No 50397 of The Hartford Fire Insurance Co — $1900 —

Yours truly
E. C. Means Agent
For Margaret A. Means

Jany 18th 7

F. A. Hyne Esq Agent
Covington Ky
Dear Sir:

Your favor 16th inst at hand—
Today I send Walker & Lehman draft for insurance as per their bill—
Insurance policy for $1900.00 received.
Tax receipt $44.00 at hand—
You report rents collected as follows:

W. R. Miller	$4.50	
Mrs. Stacy	2.50	
H. Rober	6.00	
A. Boyd	5.00	
F. A. Hyne	22.00	$40.00
1 Commission		4.00
Total		$44.00 used in

payment of Taxes—

Please remember to make monthly settlements as early in each month as possible—

Yours truly;
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Make report in form following:

			due	Collected
300	Main St.	F. A. Hyne	$15.00	
302	" "	up to Stacy	5.00	
"	" "	down		
304	" "	up Mrs. Boyd	5.00	
"	" "	down W.R. Miller	5.00	
169	East 3rd "	up H. Robins	6.00	
"	" "	down J. Wallace	5.00	

Fill this out 1st of February & send in with collections.

Tenant Ward Collect. Bal.

300 Main St.
302 " " down
" " " up
304 " " down
" " " up
169 East 3rd " down
" " " up

Janu 19th 97

F. A. Laidley Esq Gen Mang
Cincinnati O

Dear Sir:

Mr. W. C. Richardson Cashier has assured me that the note referred to in favor 14th inst will be renewed when due at your request.

The rail mills here and at Ironton are all three running full time. The difference in the rate to New Orleans 12¢ per river and 14¢ per rail, I learn is not enough to cause buyers to have much choice in manner of shipments. If your agent has not been over the ground lately would it not be well for him to visit the rail mills. The cream of the business will be taken off in a short time.

Yours truly,
E. C. Means Supt

Jany 23rd 7

Frank Lyman Esq
New York
Dear Sir:

Replying to your favor 19th inst.
Reports just in show shipments from Covington Dee to have been 783 tons for week ending 16th inst. and make to have been 991 1/2 tons. This is probably the largest one week's output for that Dee. Same week Low Moor Dee shipped 18 tons and made 1158 tons.

Are not familiar with prices asked for [illegible] Washington Iron at present, and before expressing an opinion as to the advisability of blowing out either furnace would prefer some information as to prices.

Our manager from Hanging Rock, "Hamilton", was here yesterday, and while the stock of iron there is not large, he is reducing prices 50¢ per ton from November quotations.

If such a reduction would still leave profits which would justify the use of our own ore at Covington I favor a [illegible] of the market before closing operations. Yours respectfully

E. C. Means

Jany 27th 97

Mrs. Sarah McChesney
Newyork
My dear Madam:

Enclosed herewith please find a draft on the Third Natl Bank of Newyork for One hundred and Sixty ($160.00) Dollars payable to your order; in payment of room etc of Miss Margaret A. Means from Jany 26th to Feby 23rd 1897-
Please acknowledge receipt and oblige
Yours respectfully:
E. C. Means
Agent for Margaret A. Means

Janry 28th 97

William Means Esq
Yellow Springs O
Dear Sir:

Enclosed your will find U. S. Postal Money Order payable to your order for the sum of Eighty five ($85.00) Dollars as per your request to Miss Margaret A. Means 25th inst—

The charge was Thirty cents for the order so please acknowledge the receipt of $85.30 from her—

The Cincinnati & NewYork drafts heretofore sent you were obtained at par, hence I only asked for receipts accordingly—

Yours truly;
E. C. Ferneau Agent
for Margaret A. Means

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT
E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.
ROBERT PEEBLES,
SECRETARY AND TREASURER
OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
INCORPORATED.
Ashland, Ky.
In reply to yours of

Feby 1st 97

Mrs. R. M. Bullard
Waukesha
Wis

Dear Rose;

Today I have deposited to your credit in the Ashland National Bank of A. C. & I. Ry Co. coupons $35.00 each, or a total of $140.00 Interest on bonds owned by you. With love from all—

Your aff. bro.

E. C. Means

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT
ROBERT PEEBLES,
SECRETARY AND TREASURER
OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
INCORPORATED.
Ashland, Ky.
In reply to yours of

Feby 1st 97

Mrs. L. M. Maynard
Brooklyn
N. Y.

Dear Lily:

Today I have deposited to your credit in the Ashland National Bank of A. C. & I. Ry Co coupons $35.00 each or a total of $210.00 Interest on bonds owned by you. With love from all—

Your aff. bro.

E. C. Means

Febry 4th 7

F. A. Hyne Esq Agent
Covington, Ky.
Dear Sir;

Your favor Jany 31st at hand. Reporting collections as follows—

Mrs Stacey	$3.75	
H Roker	6.00	
F. A Hyne	8.40	$18.15
" commision	1.81	$19.96

Contra

Hyne Check	$9.75	
Bill Water Rent	2.50	
Bill Strathman Bros	3.40	
" F.A. Hyne	2.50	$18.15
" Commission	1.81	$19.96

It appeass as if H Roker is the only tenant that paid in full last month—

Yours truly;

E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Fill this out 1st of March and send in with collections

	Tenant	due Jan + Feb.	Total	Collected
300 Main St	F. A. Styne	4.79 + 15.00 =	19.79	
302 " "	up. Stacy	1.25 + 5.00 =	6.25	
" " "	down			
304 " "	up Boyd	5.00 + 5.00 =	10.00	
" " "	down Miller	5.00 + 5.00 =	10.00	
169 E 3rd "	up Rohrer	6.00 =	6.00	
" " "	down Wallace	5.00 + 5.00 =	10.00	

Febry 9th 7

Dear Aunt Margaret:

The unexpected has happened and we have lost the case in the United States Circuit Court of Appeals— I copy and send herewith a letter that Mr. Hager received from Mr Maxwell this morning. After such a favorable opinion from Judge Barr it is quite a surprise to hear of his decision being reversed—

Until we see the full opinion there is little to add to Mr Maxwell's letter. The Cincinnati papers of today give a short account and state that no account is to be taken of our settlement with Mrs Sloane and that an accounting shall be made to determine his interest in the estate.

How much of his interest will finally reach his hands or those of his children is uncertain as the lawyers will get some and probably his creditors, yet unpaid, may fight for a portion— It will reduce your share as well as Adams, Culbertson & Fathers but it is probable that the assets of the estate remaining in our hands as administrators will all for

#2 2/9/97

enough to pay more than the Mc Kleans interest and you will not be called upon to make any return of that all ready given to you as an heir at law—

With much love

Your affectionate nephew

E. C. Means

Copy

Feby 5th 1897

Hon John F. Hager
Holland Ky

Dear Sir

The Circuit Court of Appeals this morning announced its opinion reversing Judge Barr's decision in the Means case. We cannot get a copy of the opinion for two or three days. As soon as it is printed I will send you a copy. The court holds, as I understand it, that Wm Means' notes evidenced debts to his father, not gifts, but that those debts on a proper construction of the will were canceled by it, and the judgment of the Circuit Court is reversed with directions to state an account settling the estate and pay to the plaintiffs Wm Means' one fifth (1/5) interest without deduction on account of said notes; and the receipt of Wm Means to the Administrators is set aside and held for naught.

Not having an opportunity to see the Courts opinion I cannot make any expression about it at this time or say whether there is hope for relief through a writ of certiorari to the Supreme Court.

Very truly yours — Etc —

Febry 13th 7

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Replying to your letter of 11th
As yet we have not seen the opinion delivered
by Judge Severens in the Means case and we
do not know whether the case can be appealed
to the court of final resort in the U. S.—
Mr. Anderson is in hopes that the opinion will
be such that an appeal can be taken.—
After finding from our Attorneys that such is
the case, before doing so, I think it right that
Tom + I should have the approval of yourself
Father + Tom Culbertson.— It will mean a
large additional expense if the case should be
decided against us in the U. S. Supreme Court—
and if you, Father, Tom C + Tom A, prefer
to stop now and stand the loss which will
result by the diminution of the estate in an
amount equal to the notes of Mrs Means + plus expenses to date rather
than to go to the final court with changes of
additional losses due to court expenses, Will
and good + I shall be governed accordingly.—
Febry 15th Was unable to finish this letter
when started on account of callers in the office
who absorbed my time.—

#2 A.A.M. 2/15 7

Father & wife go to New York with me this afternoon — Low Moor Meeting —
Last payment to Mrs McChesney for room covered from Jany 26th to Febry 23rd 1897
Another payment will be due next week —
Last remittance to William Means was Jany 28th for Eight five ($85.00) Dollars and Thirty (30) cents for Postal Order — He requested it sent that way, so I charged his account on your books for the full cost — Heretofore I sent him either New York or Cincinnati drafts for which the bank made no charge — But he had to go to Xenia to get the money for the draft and he wished to avoid that expense —
It will soon be two years since you have been here to examine your books and affairs — While I appreciate your confidence in my management and care of your estate, you will confer a great favor by coming here and looking over the records of the business and approving my work — When you conclude to go East again please keep this in mind and I will meet you in Cincinnati where part of the personal property is kept and you can see for

#3

Mr. A. M. 2/15 7

yourself that every thing is as reported—
After looking over the Cincinnati part we
can come here and finish the inspection—
In a recent conversation with Mr. J. L. Anderson
he suggested that it might be well for me
to have annual settlements with you personally
or through your Attorney—acting for you—
Ruby & H.E. are well. The latter was much
elated over her valentines and had me take
her to the Post office to get them yesterday—
The iron business continues slow and we
will have to stop ~~one of~~ the Covington furnaces
for Low Moor Co— And 1st of April one fee
here will have to stop—
With much love to yourself & Evelyn
Your affectionate nephew:
E. C. Means

Febry 23rd 7

Mrs. Sarah McChesney
#46 W 21st St. New York

My dear Madam:

Enclosed herewith please find a draft on the Third Natl Bank of New York for One hundred and sixty ($160.00) Dollars payable to your order: in payment of room etc of Miss Margaret A. Means from Febry 23rd to Mar. 23rd 1897—

Please acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours respectfully:

E. C. Means

Agent for Margaret A. Means

Febry 23d 97

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Your letter of 20th inst at hand—

Enclosed find a draft on a Newyork Bank for Three hundred ($300—) Dollars payable to your order as you requested—

I shall also send on your account a draft to Mrs. Sarah McChesney for One hundred and sixty ($160—) Dollars in payment of your room for 4 weeks from Febry 23d to Mar 23rd

My desire to have you go to Cincinnati was to have you look over your bonds & certificates of stock there and then thos at Ashland. You could then compare the amounts with your trial balance and have a complete check on the statements sent to you—

I have not for a moment doubted your confidence in my actions, and if the developments of the last ten years had not shown how some members of a family are liable to find fault with the Agent of another, would never have thought of such complete inspection & approval.

But if anything was to happen that would cause either of us to depart this life, it would

#2

H. A. M. 2/25 7

be a great satisfaction, as well as pleasure to me at least, to know that my acts in caring for your affairs were approved by you and that you based your approval upon an occasional inspection which others could not criticise as being imperfect.

Further, in case you later had another agent, either by choice or necessity, it would establish a precedent and you could make an examination of your affairs as you had done with me, without danger of your new agent feeling that you lacked confidence.

I have recently read the decision of the Circuit Court of Appeals. I have not yet secured a copy but asked Mr. Anderson for one.

The court has taken the view of Evan D. Williams that T. W. H. was very liberal with his children and that he intended that the money paid out for Wm. H. in 1886, not repaid should not be considered other than a gift and that by the will the notes could not be considered a debt to the estate which could be charged to Wm. H. The court directs that no account shall be taken of the notes and that the share of Wm H. shall

#0 M.A.M. 23rd.

be equal to the other four and that an accounting shall be made and the amount due Wm M be determined and paid to the Trustees or parties entitled to it. Estate to pay all costs of suit.

It does not determine whether the Trustees are entitled to hold it as against any creditors and it will now devolve on the Courts to determine whether the creditors of Wm M. can come in and get the amounts still due to them from him.

You, Father & Aunt Mollys Estate are creditors of Wm Means and it is probable that Father & Tom Adams will seek to obtain the amounts he owed to them. Mr. Anderson believes that you should do the same. It will be well for you to consider this matter fully and advise with Mr. Anderson about it. There is one note of Wm Means held by you about which I believe there would be no question of your obtaining a judgement. It is dated Aug 25th 1887 @ 6% and was given I believe for money collected by him for you from Covington property & elsewhere. Father would know the full particulars. I can make you a statement showing amounts which can properly

#4

M. A. M. 2/20 7

~~by~~ be considered debts contracted prior to any claim by the Trustees of Wm M. and on which you could join other creditors in seeking to collect.

The decision of U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals will decrease the share of each of the four, J. M., T. M. C., T. M. A. & M. A. M. in the neighborhood of $40.000 —, roughly estimating the amount called a gift and the costs of the suit. It therefore appears to me only right that debt of Wm M. to you should be collected as far as possible. However you are the judge of such matters —

The Ohio River is within a few feet of the top of the bank here and in Catlettsburg. We have had two days of rain but it has now stopt and the river will be at a stand before midnight —

Ruby & baby are well — Father in New York —

With love to yourself & Evelyn

Your affectionate nephew.

E. C. Means —

Febry 23rd 7

E. B. Willard Esq Pres't
Hanging Rock, O
Dear Sir;

Your favor 22nd inst at hand— Am pleased to learn about the good works of the furnace and hope it may continue. I notice that in Febry 1895 the furnace carried more burden but made practically no No 1 iron. If it were not for the half day stop on Sunday I presume the daily average output would be higher— I would like to see one months work without that stoppage in order that a comparison might be made—

Regarding Mr. Ringo. I had a talk with him Sunday 21st and am convinced that the greatest objection to his work arises from his coming home each Sunday and not staying at Pine Grove to assist in the Church work there— I judge from what he tells me that the Free-Silverite is becoming more and more interested in Church work and the general morality of the company's employees each year. He will not allow Ringo to purchase many supplies from certain stores because the stores handle liquors. None of us are total abstainers here and I presume never think of such

E. B. W. #2.

a thing in purchasing our own drugs. Perhaps the officials of the company think otherwise but I doubt if you and Mr. Bull have any such hobbies.

Another thing occurs to me in this connection. With three stores, as you have, there should be but one buyer, whose business it should be to watch the stocks in each store, transferring any surplus to the one being short of any particular kind of goods and assisting at certain times in selling goods as the occasion might require in any of the stores. He could buy in quantity and see to the marking of the prices to suit the locality of the store. The store department should be separated from the mining and quarrying and a separate account be kept. Probably his head quarters should be at New Castle until you open a store at Hanging Rock. After the rush of the first of the month sales he could go to Boston or Cincinnati if the occasion required and seek bargains. We find here and at Low Moor that such a man is desireable and that the inventories are about equal to the sales of two months. Perhaps you have a man at New Castle suited to such work and by adding a boy there little additional expense would be required

E.B.W. #3

For the present keep the Free Silverite off of Ringo and get him to assist him in a decent sort of way instead of trying to down him—

I trust the present high water will not cause a stoppage of Hamilton Fee and hope Mr. Daty will continue his excellant work—

With regards

Yours truly,

E. C. Means—

P.S. I return inclosures—

Febry 26th 97

William Means Esq
Yellow Springs O.
Dear Sir:

Enclosed you will find U. S. Postal Money Order payable to your order for the sum of Eighty five ($85.00) Dollars as per your request to Miss Margaret A. Means 24th inst.

The charge was Thirty cents for the order so please acknowledge the receipt of $85.30 from her

Yours truly:
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE PRESIDENT
E. C. MEANS, VICE PRESIDENT
ROBERT PEEBLES, SECRETARY AND TREASURER

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.
INCORPORATED
Ashland, Ky., Mar 2nd 1897
In reply to yours of 1st

S. Floyd Hoard Esq
Ceredo
W Va

Dear Sir:

Our people do not desire to purchase the bonds referred to in your letter — Thanking you for the opportunity —

Yours truly
E. C. Means

Mar 3rd 7

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Your letter of 26th Feb duly received — On same date by request of William Means I sent him a money order for Eighty five ($85.00) Dollars from your funds. Cost of order $.30 was Thirty (30) cents and I have charged him with that amount on your books — $85.30/100 —

Oct 31st 1890 William Means, having with him A. E. Lampton as a witness, gave to T. M. Adams and myself Administrators etc, an order to pay to you the sum of $16.112 46/100, your first moneys due to him from the estate of T. M. M— This is the sum Mr. Anderson probably refers to in his letter.

Oct 31st 1890, William Means was indebted to you for money paid to Labrat Heirs & Administrator in the sum of $10.596.50

and for a note dated Aug 25th 1887 5.730.61

" " Int on note, 6%, 3 yrs 2 mo 6 day 1.094.54

Total owing you Oct 31st 1890 — $17.421.65

Later in 1891 Aug 3 you paid to the Administrators etc of A. Labrat 2.014.18

and Dec 15th 91 - to Saml F. Hunt attorney for services in Labrat matters 1.000.00

Total 20.435.83

M. A. M #2 Mar 3rd 97

You will notice that while on Oct 31st 1890 William Means was indebted to you $17.421.65 the order which he gave was for 16.112.46 — The order has never been paid because believing we had made a settlement with him for $136.035.75 we were waiting until a like amount had been paid to each of the other four heirs —

On Oct 16th 1890 he proposed to pay you his share of the estate that amount to you ($16.112.46) but when you wrote objecting to giving a bond for it, we declined to pay it to you and returned him his receipt for the amount, then on Oct 31st 1890 he gave us the orders —

You will notice that the amount now charged on your books to Wm Means Ex & Trustee of A. Lalrat is $13.610.68

Balance Oct 31st 1890	$10.596.50		
Aug 3rd 1891 Pd to Admr.	2.014.18		
Dec 15th 91 " " Hunt	1.000.00		
Total	$13.610.68	Exctr & Trustee	$56
Adding the note dated Aug 25 87	5.730.61	Bills Receivable	$12
Interest to Feby 25 97 — 9 yrs 6 mos	3.266.44	(Stat on your books)	
New account Wm Means Jany 2nd 97	4.055.00	Wm Means a/c	$56
Since trial Bal " Jan 25th "	85.30	"	"
" " " Feby 26th "	85.30	"	"
Total due Mar 1st 1897	$26.833.93		

M. A. M #3

Mar 3rd 97

The above will enable you to get some idea of the amounts due to you from Wm Means.

In regard to my coming to Asheville, with the Attorneys of Wm Means; if I can get away from here at the time I will gladly do so at your request. Do you know that they are going to visit you? And have you any idea of what they want? If it is to ascertain your intentions about the amounts due you from Wm Means, I should advise that no matter what course you have chosen that you do not tell them.

After a good deal of thought about the collection of any of the above amounts due to you from your brother William, I would now advise you to go slowly into (or hesitate before going) any course which might cause you worry and annoyance. Allow the amounts to stand charged on your books for future determination of the best disposition of them.

Mr. Hyne the Agent at Covington has had the misfortune to break his leg and on that account paid no rent last month.

With love; Your affectionate nephew

E. C. Means

March 3rd 7

F. A. Hyne Esq Agent
Covington Ky

Dear Sir:

Your favor Mar 1st at hand. Reporting collections as follows:

Mrs Stacey	$5.00	
Boyd	2.00	
Miller	5.00	$12.00
Hyne Commission	1.20	$13.20

Contra

Check Hyne	$12.00	
Commission	1.20	$13.20

I am sorry to learn of your misfortune in getting a broken leg— and wish you an early recovery— and speedy return to work—

The high water has caused a great deal of trouble all along the river and those are fortunate who have not felt any bad effects from it. I am pleased to learn that it did not get up higher than the cellars at your place of business.

Hope you can soon get a tenant for the barber shop—

Yours truly!

E. C. Means Agent

Fill this out and send in April 1st '97.

House	Tenant	Unpaid July 25th		Rent March	Total due March 31st	Collections March	Due April 1st
300 Main	- A. A. Hyne	$18.59	+	15.00	$33.59	6.72	26.87
302 "	Up Stacy	1.25	+	5.00	6.25	6.25	
" "	Down						
304 "	Up Boyd	8.00	+	5.00	13.00	5.50	7.50
" "	Down Miller	5.00	+	5.00	10.00	5.00	5.00
1692 2nd	Up Roher	6.00	+	6.00	12.00	12.00	
" "	Down Wallace	10.00			10.00		10.00

Mar 16th 97

Mr. J. A. Boone
Fayettes W.Va

Dear Sir:

Replying to yours of 10th inst.
I returned this morning from Low Moor where I met him & Mr. H.S. Merry — We were talking of information about your Brown Coal Co and could not have a full discussion of its merits —
Cannot you come to Ashland soon and bring with you the annual statements or a statements from the books showing the actual condition of the assets & liabilities of the corporation?
I shall be at home all of this week and your wire to me one day that you will be here the next will keep me in town —

Yours truly,
E. C. Means Supt

Mar 18th 97

N. B. Smith Esq
#6 North 50th St
Philadelphia Pa

Dear Sir;

Your letter has been forwarded here from Low Moor, Va. - By chance it came near reaching me there, as I spent the 14th & 15th there, and I notice that it is post marked the 16th at L. M.

It requires no effort on my part to remember two Smiths who were with me at the "Tech"; yourself & J. C. who is now in Europe - The latter has written occasionally and the last note received from him announced that he was again a student in a German University - studying for a degree -

I shall forward your letter to Mr. Henry G. Morris the General manager of the Low Moor Iron Co and it may be that he has some opening in the laboratory, as he wanted an experienced Chemist -

Here there is no opening, as the Son of the Prest is Furnace Manager and he has a good Chemist - While I have nothing to do with the furnaces, being in charge

#2 ~~A~~ B 8 3/18/97

of the coal and transportation interests. My connection with the Law Moor Co is no longer active and am called there only at Directors meetings and occasionally to meet the Vice Pres. Mr. Frank Lyman of Newyork, to whom together with the gen'l Mang & myself most questions concerning operation & new improvements are referred—

Mr. H.S. Merry the Gen'l Mang. is a very bright man and doing excellent work at furnaces & mines. He has a furnace manager named McElvain who has been very successful and is entirely satisfactory in his furnace work. So no change is contemplated there.

Had lost track of H.L. Woodward but supposed he was still in iron business in South.

Am pleased to have heard from you and regret that I am unable to be of more service in aiding you to secure a situation such as you desire.

With regards—

Yours truly,

E.C. Means

Mar 18th 97

H G Merry Esq G. M.
Low Moor Va

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find a letter from Mr. N. B. Smith which explains itself—
He may be the chemist you are seeking as his furnace experience may be of value.
I have heard nothing from him before, since leaving Boston, and know nothing of his work in the South. At School I liked him and have always remembered him as a sensible sort of a fellow. One vacation he fired a locomotive on the Old Colony RR. He said for the experience but it may have been to aid him to get money for his education— I would suggest that you write to him as to his qualifications and keep him in mind in case you desire a new man—
Mr. J. A. Boone wires that he will be here tomorrow.
With regards to yourself, Mrs M & family
Yours truly,
E. C. Means

March 20th 97

Frank Lyman Esq
Brooklyn N.Y.
Dear Sir:

By following your suggestion I secured the presence of Mr. J. A. Boone here to-day and had a long talk with him.

He was unable to state a price on the Brown Coal Co Stock and has promised to see or write the various shareholders and make a definite proposition next week or as soon as possible.

One drawback, I found to arise, from the desire of the Boone interest to continue in the company and their expectations of a large tonnage this year. While they have no definite idea of the proportions of sales of 70 cents & 87½ cents coal, they expect to have an average run which will yield 75 cents per ton. They have no contract but receive such cars as the committee on cars may award them.

The Brown interest is for sale, as they need cash for developments on Laurel Creek. Mr. Boone thought that the Brown interest could be purchased for $18.000.00, representing one half of the total. The shares are $100.00 each and this would be at the rate of $180.00 per share for their 100 shares.

F. Z. #2

3/20/97

He would fix no price on the other half interest and promised to have a conference with his friends
I am surprised at his position and I enclose herewith a statement dated Dec 31st 1896 in which I can see nothing to justify such great expectations as he seems to have—
You will notice they owe $7409.27 and have accounts due them of 4995.70—
Leave net owing of 2413.57
So I presume it is safe to say that the company needs from $5000 to $7000 for working capital—

You will also notice that their net gains have been $3660.85 instead of $11070.02 as the clerk appears to have passed the amount owing by the company and considered it neither as an asset or a liability—

The statement of liabilities of Feby 28th 1897 does not include royalties, which are entered quarterly— Mr Boone believes the royalties due on account of coal not mined have been forgiven and he does not consider his company held for them—
After sounding him as to minimum price

R L #3

8/20/97

and finding that an offer of $30.000 would not be considered and that he could make no definite answer to an offer of $35.000 I concluded to make no offer and to await his letter next week.

Have been talking with others about the probable additional cost of mining in a 3 ft seam of coal over a 4 ft seam. And find it estimated @ 7 to 10 cents per ton. P. B. Warner who operates the Thomas Coal Co at Sunnyside says that 7 ¢ is the outside limit and believes it can be done for 5 ¢. J. H. Boone places it at 7 to 10 ¢.

With regards.

Yours truly;

E. L. Ireland

Mar 22nd 7

Mrs. Sarah McCheney
246 W 21st St New York

My dear Madam:

Enclosed herewith please find a draft on the Third Nat'l Bank of New York for One Hundred and sixty ($160-) Dollars payable to your order, in payment of room etc of Miss Margaret A. Means from ~~Feby~~ March 23rd to April 20th 1897 - Please acknowledge -

Yours respectfully,

E. C. Means

Agent for Margaret A. Means

Mar 23d 97

H.L. Merry Esq U.M.
Low Moor, Va

Dear Sir:

Yours 22d inst at hand—
Mr. Brown was here Friday, 19th, and we had a long talk together but he could not name a price on the stock of the Brown Coal Co. Nor could he accept an offer, owing to the different interests. He promised to take the matter before his friends and the Browns and write me the result.
He wants us to buy the Brown one half interest but he & his friends prefer to hold their stock.
He appears to have great expectations for the future, much more than appears warrantable from surface indications such as Mr. Effinger told us about— Will write you any thing new that may turn up but am inclined to believe that the price will not be one that we can accept—
From what I can learn the C&O. people are playing a fast & loose game with the coal men. That is to say they want coal at 70 cents for some

-2-

orders and will take it at 87½ cents for others but decline to state tonnage of each in advance- and it will only be after the coal has been shipped that the shipper will learn his price-

Mrs. Means & I are anticipating your visit, together with Mrs. Merry & Edward Thomas, with a great deal of pleasure- It is doubtfull if the Cinti visit together can be arranged because I may not be able to postpone my visit there until next-

We have two furnaces out of blast for repairs and are anxious to sell some coal to Donald Macdonald if he can use it in his trade- Have written to him and will go down to Cinti at once if any thing favorable can be accomplished-

With regards to all

Yours truly,

E. C. Means

Mar 24th 7

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Your letter of 22nd inst at hand
Enclosed herewith find two drafts on the
Third National Bank of Newyork payable
to your order in the sum of Two hundred
($200.00) Dollars each making the total of
Four hundred ($400.00) Dollars requested —
Am sorry to learn that you are having
trouble with your arm and hope that it is
only a temporary affliction —
We are glad to learn that Evelyn is so much
stronger and I have no doubt that your
taking her out for exercise has had a great
deal to do with her improvement — Her mother
& Lizzie are pleased to have you with her and
I do not believe any family appreciate attentions,
no matter how little, more than that one —
When we lived with Charley, Ruby did not dare
express a wish because Charley kept it in mind
and if it was possible tried to fulfill it —
She was ashamed to accept so many presents
when we were doing so little for him — And now
we are in the same position with you and
it so hard to find something to do en return —

#2 M. L. M. 2/24/97

On 22nd I sent Mrs. McChesney One hundred and sixty ($160.00) Dollars in payment your room until April 20th 97. The annual request from Mr. Deans will be in this week, probably, and as nothing has been paid him from the Estate of T. M. M. I will remit to him on your account as you have directed.

Our attorneys have filed a petition for a rehearing of the case which will probably be acted upon next month. I shall send you a copy of the petition. It reads all right and appears to have some grounds for favorable action.

Ruby and I are going to Cincinnati Friday to make Spring purchases and to select wall paper for the house. Next week we expect a visit from Mr. & Mrs. Merry.

Mrs. Desmead (Minnie Hildreth) is at Mt. Vernon. Will is trying to organize a new telephone exchange in Trenton. You have the opportunity to purchase at par $200.00 more Citizens Street Ry stock. It sells for a premium of 10 or 11% and I will purchase it for you. With love

Yours truly: E. C. Deans

Mar 25th 7

J. A. Boone Esq
Fayette, Wva
Dear Sir:

Your favor 24th inst at hand— You said nothing in your letter about the price on the half interest other than the Brown— You might make or secure a price on that and if I can see any chance of our coming together on prices will then arrange for a meeting— But if we are to pay any such price as was asked last spring for the entire stock am afraid the deal will fall through—

I forwarded your statements to Mr Frank Lyman calling his attention to a clerical error of $7.409.17 in the estimate of net gains of $11.07a.02— The clerk neglected to subtract the indebtedness— As shown in one part of the statement your net profits have been $3660.85— This makes quite a reduction in the value of the stock when subtracted from the assets—

Let me hear from you again— With regards

Yours truly;

E. C. Means Supt

Mar 25th 7

Frank Lyman Esq
Newyork
Dear Sir:

Your favor 23d inst at hand.
Herewith find Mr. J. A. Brone's letter of 24th inst.
I have written and asked him for a price on
the rest of the stock. Calling his attention to
the mistake in the statement sent to you.
I shall be pleased to have an expression of your
views about the value of the property.
Unless there is a good reason for an immediate
purchase of coal property I doubt the advisability
of purchasing the stock of the Brown Coal Co at
such an exorbitant price.
With assets of $31000 and liabilities of $7000.
$35000 would be pretty high figures upon
which to base its value. It would mean
placing a value upon the lease-hold of $11000.

Yours truly,
E. C. Means

Mar 27th 77

James A. Collins, Secty
Cincinnati O

Dear Sirs Enclosed find Cincinnati Exchange in payment of stock as per enclosed notice. Make certificate of stock in name of Miss Margaret A. Means, Ashland Kentucky and send it here in my care —

Yours truly!

Margaret A. Means
by E. C. Means Attorney

Mar 29th 7

Rochester Camera Co
Rochester, N.Y.
Dear Sir;

Referring to yours Feby 24th
The film that I was tracing was returned
to J. H. Schmidt as it appears to have
gone forward in his name — However I
presume that I have a credit of $1.00
with you — Please send me a 4×5
roll of film for my Hawkeye camera —
The negatives returned to Schmidt all
showed over exposure for which I cannot
account unless it was the age of the film.
Will try it again —

Yours truly;
E. C. Means

Mar 29th 7

Franklin Lyman Esq
New York
Dear Sir:

Yours 27th inst at hand—
Enclosed herewith latest from Mr. Boone—
Have written him in reply:
"Under the circumstances, I doubt its being
"worth while to continue negotiations, as
"our people would want the entire capital
"stock. However I will forward everything to
"Mr Lyman—"

Concerning Mr. Berry: when here Mr. Boone volunteered the information that he believed a contract for 400,000 tons had been taken by companies in which Berry was interested & in the land and the royalties would go far towards putting Berry in good financial condition— It might be well to speak him, it is desirable to have him surrender any leases—

With regards
Yours truly
E. C. Means Supt

P.S. Father is expected home tomorrow—

Mar 29th 7

J. A. Boone Esq
Fayette. Wis.
Dear Sir:

Replying to yours 27th inst.
The statement you send corrects the error in other one where the item of $11,070.02 was shown as P&L. without being itemized. Under the circumstances, I doubt its being worth while to continue negotiations. As our people would want the entire capital stock. However I will forward every thing to Mr. Lyman.

Thanking you for your courtesies in this matter.

Yours truly
E. C. Mean

Mar 29th 7

T. A. Laidley Esq
Gen Mang Big Sandy Packet Co
Cincinnati

Dear Sir:

W. C. Richardson Cashier of Ashland Natl Bank has agreed to renew your note due April 7th.

I have a letter from J. S. Hall of the Argand Refining Co advising me that he put in a bid with the Consolidated Boat Store Co for a supply of oil. I hope you will keep in mind our interest in this matter and do what you can to help keep up some opposition to the Standard Oil Co. By buying occasionally from outsiders we have managed to secure reductions in our oil bills which continuous buying from the Standard did not give us.

Yours truly
E. C. Means

P. S. Have two of our three furnaces idle and are short of cheap fuel for river.

March 27th 97

William Means Esq
Gallaw Springs O

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find a draft on 1st Natl Bank of Cincinnati for Eighty five ($85.00) dollars on account of Miss Margaret A. Means as per your request to her 27th inst—

Please acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours truly
E. C. Means Agt
for Margaret A. Means

Mar 30th 7

H. G. Merry Esq G. M.
Low Moor Va

Dear Sir:

A freight agent of the C&O was in to tell me about rate on brick to Low Moor. Said that no reduction could be made to shipper from the 15¢ rate but that the furnace company would be allowed to settle with RR Co for ½ the published rate or 7½ ¢. I hope the Clinton F. B. W's bid will be the successful one. If you award contract before going to Alabama will it be necessary for Mr. Leffingwell to go to Low Moor?

He has secured the contract for a new lining for the furnace here. The making of high silicon and ferro-silicon is very hard on linings and they are contemplating the use of No 1 brick for a greater distance above the bosh than formerly. The high heats carried in the furnace by use of excessive fuel appear to require it.

The Boones decline to sell to sell their one half interest in the Brown Coal Co and it appears useless to negotiate further. The Browns want $17.500 for their one-half. Hoping to see you & Mrs M. soon Yrs. E. C. Means

P. S. Father is expected home today on No 3.

#2

Mr. Jack Champion is going to investigate the possibilities of securing a lease on Rich Patch - He is a R.R. contractor and thinks of trying ore mining - Mr McClintock of Craig Creek was trying to interest him on a 35¢ royalty but they did not reach any agreement - I have suggested Rich Patch to Mud Tunnel to him and he has taken the matter in hand - Would like to have you tell him the conditions and possibilities of mining in Va if he is here when you come -

We may be able to secure some information by encouraging him to investigate the ore question in the neighborhood of L. M. & Co.

April 5th 7

L. F. Walters Esq
c/o Thos. A. Mack
Cincinnati O
Dear Sir:

Enclosed find draft on First Natl. Bank of Cincinnati for the sum of Three thousand ($3000=) Dollars payable to order of John Means and by him endorsed to the order of Thos A. Mack —

Please acknowledge receipt of same —

Thos A. Mack under date of April 2nd has asked for the loan of the above amount for 4 months —

It has been sometime since you have sent a statement of the old account. Can you favor us with one with interest to date?

Yours truly;
E. C. Means

April 5th 7

Thos A. Mack Esq
197 Fulton St Newyork
Dear Sir:

Today a draft on First Nat'l Bank of Cincinnati for Three thousand ($3000) Dollars payable to the order of John Means and by him endorsed payable to your order has been forwarded to your Mr. L. F. Walters at Cincinnati.

You can make note for same at 4 months to the order John Means as you proposed.

With regards.

Yours truly,
E. C. Means

P. S. Mrs. J. M. Adams died today leaving a girl baby a few hours old.

April 9th 7

F. A. Hyne Esq Agent
Covington, Ky
Dear Sir:

Yours favor at hand with check & bills.
Reporting collections as follows:

W. R. Miller	$5.00	
Mr A. Boyd	5.50	
Mr Stacy	6.25	
Mr H Rohes	12.00	
F. A. Hyne	3.50	$32.25
" " Commission	3.22	$35.47

Contra.

Check F. A. Hyne	$28.75	
Repairs (Lock) "	.50	
Water Rent "	3.00	
Commission "	3.22	$35.47

In regard to the water in the cellars it would be well to have them cleaned out and put in order and some lime scattered in them.

Will try and visit the houses on my next trip to Cincinnati.

Yours truly:

E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Fill this out and send in May 1st 1897

Houses	Tenants	Unpaid April 1st	Rent April	Total due April 30th	Collections
300 Main	F. A. Tyne	26.87 +	15.00	41.87	
302 " up	Stacy		5.00	5.00	
" " down					
304 " up	A. Boyd	7.50 +	5.00	12.50	
" " down	Miller	5.00 +	5.00	10.00	
1692 3rd up	Rodier		6.00	6.00	
" " down	Wallace	10.00		10.00	

April 10th 97

A. G. Merry Esq G. M.
Low Moor, Va

Dear Sir:

In yours 5th inst, referring to Covington Furnace, I note that Mr Law favors a stoppage. Under present conditions it appears useless to continue both furnaces in operation. With no market and a stock on hand representing the output of one furnace for 5 or 9 months, it appears the wisest thing to do.

I see Mr. Thompson is still here but have not had any recent talks with him about Va. ores. Am in hopes he will take up the matter of a lease with Rich Patch and tie them up for a year or two.

Don't you believe it will be best to let coal questions lie over until May meeting? Under present circumstances I see no need of hurry.

We are still expecting your visit to us with Mrs. Merry & baby. With regards to all.

Yours truly: E. C. Means

April 16th 97

H. S. Merry Esq G. M.
Low Moor Va

Dear Sir:

A Furnace manager named Simpson(?) Musgrave recently from the South and formerly from the Pittsburgh district is here and is anxious to get work. I took him to the train, No 3. Wednesday expecting to see you. We know nothing about him except what he has told us but he insists that he can do good work wherever he goes.

If you would like for him to meet you and talk over matters he will go to Low Moor or Covington. I told him that it was very doubtfull if you could use him but that it was possible you might try him at Covington

He has some ideas about furnace work that appear sound and all right. I make no recommendation but if you wish me when you can see him and where I will tell him

Yours truly: E. C. Means

April 19th 97

David Sinton Esq
Cincinnati
Dear Sir:

The 4 lots of Mrs. Lampton to be sold April 26th to satisfy judgement of $1.936 in favor of M. S. Building & Loan Association are situated on Carter Ave and are worth more than that amount. The Mill is upon one of them. Terms of sale, are credits of 6, 12 & 18 months. If sold for two thirds of the appraisement the sale is complete; if sold for less, there is one year in which to redeem. They may be sold singly, and if not necessary to satisfy the judgement the sale of all four will not be required.

As Mr. John F. Hager is well known as our Attorney and the lots are worth, in my opinion, more than the judgement, I doubt if any compromise can be obtained through him.

Yours respectfully:

E. C. Means

April 21st 97

Mrs. Sarah McCheaney
46 W 21st Street. New York
My dear Madam:

Enclosed herewith please find a draft on the Third Natl Bank of New York for One hundred and sixty eight ($168.00) Dollars payable to your order: in payment of room rate of Miss Margaret A. Means from April 20th to May 28th 1897. The increased payment being on account of change of room.

Please acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours respectfully:

E. C. Means

Agent for Margaret A. Means

April 22nd 97

David Sinton Esq
Cincinnati O
Dear Sir:

Replying to yours 21st inst.
Upon the two lots on the south side of Carter Ave is one frame house near the alley, now occupied by people of color quite dark. The house is in need of repair and although two stories high I doubt if its rental value is above $6 ~~or $8~~ per month.
Upon the two lots on the South side of Carter Ave are situated the Mill and two frame cottages - The latter look to have 3 rooms each and are in need of paint and repairs, I judge each would rent from $5 to $6 per month - and are or could be easily rented -
While I am not prepared to buy any property and have been unable to learn any thing about the appraised value of the property in question I should

judge that the property on the South side of Carter Ave could be sold at private sale ⅓ cash balance in one & two years with interest for $1000 or $1200 or at the rate of $10 to $12 per front foot. Or to put it differently the corner lot @ $600.00 and the other one @ $400.00

The same would be true of the lots on the South side of Carter Ave, adding for the value of the mill say $1000.00 or less.

Say the 3 houses will rent for		$180.00 per year
Commission to Agent	$18.00	150.00 " "
Taxes	50	330
Interest	120	188

Balance for repairs & profits $142 per year.

Yours truly:

E. C. Means

P.S. I have just learned that the house occupied by the colored people is an old stable weather boarded and not of much value.

April 24th 7

The Cincinnati Street Railway Co
Cincinnati, Ohio.
Gentlemen:

Enclosed find Scrip certificate of stock No 27,245 in name of Margaret A. Means please make in lieu thereof one certificate of four shares of stock in name of Margaret A. Means and forward same to her address here—

Yours truly: E. C. Means Agent
& Attorney for Margaret A. Means

April 26 7

Mrs Sarah J. McCheaney
New York
Dear Madam:

Yours 23rd inst at hand enclosing check for Eight ($8.00) Dollars— Miss M. H. Means told me to send the extra $2.00 per week because she would change rooms— I shall return the $8.00 to her—

Yours truly: E. C. Means Agent

April 27th 7

William Means Esq
Yellow Springs O
Dear Sir:

Enclosed find draft on First Natl Bank of Cincinnati for Eighty five ($85.00) Dollars on account of Miss Margaret A. Means as per your request to her 26th inst. Please acknowledge receipt and oblige Yours truly;

E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

April 27 7

West Publishing Co
St Paul, Minn
Gentlemen;

Enclosed herewith Four Forty Exchange for $3.00 as per your bill 23rd inst

Yours truly;

E. C. Means

April 28th 7

Morton & Sons
Cincinnati O

Gentlemen:

Three or four weeks ago we picked out wall paper designs for our house from your stock, as shown to us.

We are now ready to have the papering done and enclose herewith rough sketches, not to scale, to give you an idea of the amounts of paper required.

The arrangement agreed upon was that you would send man at my expense to do the work.

Mrs. Means has one or two carpets that she does not want to "take up".

Have paper hanger go to the "Russell House" on Front st when he comes here.

Shall be pleased to learn when you can arrange to do this work.

Yours truly,

E. C. Means

April 28th 97

J. A. Boone Esq
Fayette, W. Va
Dear Sir!

Replying to yours 27th inst. The Low Moor people have decided that they cannot afford to purchase the Brown & Lawton interests in the Brown Coal Co at the price asked.

Mr. Lyman wrote me to this effect a short time ago. As we could be unable to purchase the whole amount of stock, as you stated, we have no offer to make and will let the matter drop.

With regards and best wishes for a prosperous year

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

May 1st 7

J. L. Anderson Esq
Ironton O

Dear Sir:

In response to your inquiry of last evening I herewith show indebtedness of Wm Means to Margaret A. Means as shown on her books of account.

(1) Balance due her from William Means Executor & Trustee Estate of August Labrot including Attorney fee to S. F. Hunt of $1,000.00 Dec '90 - Ledger page 56 } $13.610.68

(2) The note of William Means dated

August 25th 1887	$ 5.730.61	
Interest to April 30th 1897	3.328.34	9.058.95
9 years 8 mo 5 days @6%		

(3) Balance of new account with William Means see trial bal Jan 2nd 97 $4.055.00

remitted	Jan 28th "	85.30	
	Feb 26th "	85.30	
	Mar 29th "	85.00	
	April 27th "	85.00	4.395.60
			$27.065.23

5/10/97

Dr J. L. A.

You will notice that the sum of $27.065.23 is shown as due from Wm Means without calculating interest on the Labrot payments which ended over 5 yrs ago. The final payment to the Administrator de bonis non Etc having been made Aug 3rd 1891 leaving a balance of $12.610.68 at that time

Dec 15th 91 1.000.00 to J. P. Hunt

" " bal $13.610.68 — Bal as now —

Interest for 5 yr 7 mos & 27 days on $12.610.68 = $4.268.71

" " 5 " 4 " 15 " " 1.000.00 = 322.50

Total $4.591.21

Also notice that no interest has been charged on the new open account

				Interest
although	Aug 1st 92	the bal was	$50.00 - 5 mo	1.25
	Jan 6th 93	" " "	460.00 - 1 yr	27.60
	Jan 2nd 94	" " "	975.00 - 1 "	58.50
	" 2nd 95	" " "	2025.00 - 1 "	121.50
	" 2nd 96	" " "	3055.00 - 1 "	183.30
	" 2nd 97	" " "	4.055.00 - 4 "	81.10

Interest on balances as shown $473.25

" " Acct of Extr & Trustee 4.591.21

Other items 1st sheet 27.065.23

Total due if interest is claimed — $32.129.69

Trust the above is satisfactory yrs E. C. Means

May 3rd 7

Simpson Musgrave Esq
Pittsburgh Pa

Dear Sir: Replying to your letter 1st inst. So far as I can learn neither Mr. Wilkins or Mr. Merry wish your services at present. Trusting that you will be more apt to get a situation in Pittsburgh I remain

Yours truly;
Z. C. Means

May 6th 7

Thos A. Mack Esq
Cincinnati O

Dear Sir: As agreed with your Mr. L. F. Walters I enclose herewith statement of account and two notes, to be signed, in settlement. Have made the notes payable at the Ashland Natl Bank, which I trust is agreeable.

Yours truly:
Z. C. Means
For John Means

May 6th 7

Edward A. Law Esq Treas
New York

Dear Sir:

Replying to yours 3rd inst Father suggests that the Law Moor meeting be held on the 21st inst, as that will give us more time for our meeting here.

Am pleased to note that you have requested Mr. Henry to blow out Covington Furnace. Under present conditions of the market it is useless to operate two furnaces.

When more furnaces stop and stocks are being reduced we can hope for improved conditions.

Trusting to see you at the meeting and with regards from Father, Mrs. Means and myself.

Yours respectfully;

J. C. Means
Pres.

May 11th 7

F. A. Hyne Esq Agent
Covington Ky
Dear Sir:

Your letter dated 9th inst came this morning—
I credit your with

Check	$24.90		
Water Rent Bill	3.50	28.40	
Commission		2.84	$31.24

Your report rents collected
No 302 Main St Stacy $5.00
up 304 " " Boyd 7.50
down " " " Miller 5.00
1692 3rd " Rohrer 4.00
300 Main " Hyne 6.90 28.40
" " " Commission 2.84 $31.24

You will notice that your payment on rent of 300 Main St instead of being $10.00 was but $6.90 + 2.84 = $9.74 and I only give you credit accordingly—

From the amount of rent due you should be able to collect enough to do considerable paint buying— Yours truly,

E. C. Means Agent

May 11th 7

Fill this out and send in June 1st 1897

	Tenant	Unpaid May 1st	Rent May	Total due May 31st	Collections during May	June 22nd
300 Main	C.A. Hyne	32.134	15.00	47.13		20.00
302 " up	Stacy		5.00	5.00		6.25
" " down						
304 " up	A. Boyd	5.00 + 5.00		10.00		5.00
" " down	Miller	5.00 + 5.00		10.00		
1692 3rd up	Rohrer	2.00 + 6.00		8.00		6.00
" " down					J Anderson	4.00

Can you find tenants for 302 Main St down and 1692 3rd Street down—

Regarding the paint— I am willing that some painting should be done but want you to collect enough rents to pay for the paint and for the June taxes—

I do not want to see any more penalties added for not paying the taxes on time

Yours— E. C. M—

May 11th 7

J. A. Boone Esq
Fayette, W.Va.
Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith find reports and yearly statements as requested. With all the coal sold as reported, New River mines must be very busy. I wish the same were true here. Yours truly,

E. C. Means

May 24 7

Dear Aunt Margaret:

I have just returned from Low Moor and am sending today to Mrs McChesney a draft for $200 in payment of your room rent from May 18th to June 22nd five weeks - In the excitement of the A.L.T.S. & Low Moor Meetings I delayed doing so last week - Will try and be more prompt next time - In case you have paid her let her return to you your money and send me receipt as usual for the amount of draft.

The draft you got for $1400 was in connection with $100 cash and you gave your check for $1500, so that you were correct in writing $1500 in your bank book on May 7th -

Father is still in Waukesha and Bessie is going there soon. Will Seaton is going to Chicago -

The court has denied a new trial in the law suit and we will apply to the Supreme Court for a hearing - Ruby & baby are well - With love - Your affectionate nephew:

E. C. Means

May 24th 7

L.F. Walters Esq
c/o Thos A. Mack
Cincinnati. O.
Dear Sir:

Your letter of 20th inst at hand, enclosing two notes of Thos A. Mack in favor of John Means as follows:
Note dated April 5th four months for $3060.00
" " " 5th six " " 2626.25
In accordance with the representations made by Mr. Mack when he secured the last loan of $3000.00 I trust he will be able to meet that note when due, it having something over two months to run.

Yours truly
E. C. Means

May 24th 7

Mrs Sarah McChesney
46 W 21st St New York
My dear Madam:

Enclosed herewith please find a draft on the Third Natl Bank of New York for Two hundred ($200.00) Dollars payable to your order; in payment of room etc of Miss Margaret A. Means from May 18th until June 22nd 1897 Five weeks

Please acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours respectfully;
E. C. Means
Agent for Margaret A. Means

May 27th 7

Robt. N. Fryer Genl Agent
Phoenix Mutual Life Ins Co
Cincinnati. O

{ Reply to Yours 5-17-97

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find my check on Ashland National Bank for One hundred and thirty three 95 Dollars ($133 95/100) in payment annual premium on Policy No 140896 due 12th June next

Yours truly; E. C. Means

May 29th 7

William Means Esq
Yellow Springs O

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find draft on First Natl Bank of Cincinnati for Eighty five ($85.00 Dollars on account of Miss Margaret A. Means as per your request to her 27th inst. Please acknowledge receipt and oblige Yours truly

E. G. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

May 29th 7

John D. McIlvain Esq
Cincinnati O
Dear Sir:

Replying to yours 28th inst
without adding the usual charge for repairs
of 25¢ which is shown semi annually I
should estimate cost of iron at Lowellaar
@ $8.00 and at Covington @ $7.85
The April statement would, roughly figured, show
a slight reduction from the above amounts
figuring the ore at 1.50 "B" 1.25 "C"

Coke	2.40	2.24
Lime	60	75
Labor	88	1.10

B. gets ore from shaft mines or pays C&O freight
" " coke that until April cost nearly $2.60 per ton
and until now had a better fuel record - used less
C. pays freight to C&O on limestone
B, on account of being a greater output has the
advantage in labor cost.
B. has made a greater per cent of #1 & #2 iron
supposedly on account of better fuel & L. M. ore.

With regards Yours truly:
E. C. Means

June 5th 7

F. A. Hyne Esq Agent
Covington Ky
Dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of 1st inst. Am sorry to learn of the fire and presume from the amount secured from the insurance company that the fire was confined entirely to the corner house.

Will the amount received from the insurance co pay for the repairs?

Please fill out and send in your May report as I wish to know the amount of rent collected each month.

The next time I am in the neighborhood of your store I will come around and see you. Are you still working for the C & O Ry?

Yours truly,
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

P. S. Don't forget to pay the taxes before the penalty comes due.

June 5th 7

Walker & Lehman
519 Madison Ave
Covington Ky

Gentlemen:

Am advised by Mr. F. A. Hyne that he has adjusted the loss on building cor of 3d & Main Sts from fire 29th inst-
I shall be pleased to have a statement from you stating the amount for which settlement has been made-etc-

Yours truly:
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means-

Policy #50397-

June 21st 97

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT

E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.

ROBERT PEEBLES
SECRETARY AND TREASURER

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED.)
Ashland, Ky., June 17th 1897
In reply to yours of

F. A. Hyne Esq
Covington
Ky

Dear Sir:

I expect to be in Covington Saturday morning, 19th, to settle with Walker & Lehman for insurance.

Will call at your store

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT

E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.

ROBERT PEEBLES,
SECRETARY AND TREASURER

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED.)
Ashland, Ky. June 17 1897
In reply to yours of 14

Walker & Lehman
Covington
Ky

Gentlemen:

I expect to be in Covington Saturday morning, 19th and will bring insurance policy of Margaret A. Means with me

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

June 21st 7

F. A. Hyne Esq
Covington Ky
Dear Sir:

Enclosed find a draft on the First Nat'l Bank of Cincinnati for One hundred and ninety nine 50/100 ($199.50) Dollars in payment of repairs on house at corner of Main vs. 3rd street as per your agreement with the insurance company's agent.

Yours truly:
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

P.S. Please acknowledge receipt of draft.
Enclosed find blanks to same

June 21st 7

Mrs Sarah McChesney
New York City
My dear Madam:

Enclosed find New York Exchange for the sum of One hundred and sixty ($160.) Dollars in payment of room etc of Miss Margaret A. Means from June 22nd to July 20th 1897 — 4 weeks.

Please acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours respectfully:
E. C. Means
Agent for Margaret A. Means

June 26th 7

Dear Aunt Margaret;

Will, Bessie, Hilda & Ruby returned yesterday from Detroit whether they had gone six days before. Will attended The Telephone Companies Convention and the others were sight seeing and shopping. I went as far as Cincinnati with them, closing up the collection of the insurance on #300 Main St $199.00 and arranging to pay for the repairs of like amount to Mr. F. A. Hyne. The fire and water damage caused the rebuilding of the wooden portion of the house and some new paper & paint, glass etc. Mr. Hyne is the tenant and the Insurance Agent had contracted with him to make the necessary repairs for $199.00

I arranged with Mr Hyne to paint the building repair the brick work where needed, especially the chimneys, and to put on new shutters. I told him that you would be willing to put all the rents this year, not required for taxes & insurance into repairs. In order to get the property into a better condition for tenants. It is badly in need of repairs & paint.

#2

Hynes lost heavily in household furniture by not having any insurance upon his goods. Am afraid he is unlucky, last winter he had a sick wife, then he broke his leg and now he has a girl 7 years old who has been sick. He appears honest and willing and I am not disposed to change him, at any rate until he has had a chance to rent the houses, while they are in better condition.

Harry returned from the Hot Springs, Wednesday on the same train as Miss Helen Spaulding. He appears better and is taking more exercise.

Father keeps close at home and goes out only in the evening. Hildreth & Aunt Harry have sold out the chickens and are clearing and improving the place.

Mrs Sheldon & the Adams children went away Wednesday. Tom is getting his meals at the hotel and is trying to do too much work in connection with his little ice-plants. I am afraid he will overdo his strength this summer and am advising him to let some one else take charge for a while.

We have made an application to the Supreme

#3

Court to hear our case and while it is very doubtfull that it will do so, we will not know before October. Meantime we are uncertain how far the lower court will compell us to account. We have asked that nothing be done until we hear from Washington and Judge Barr has not ruled upon the request but will do so soon.

We are invited by Miss Belle Coles to play cards at their home tonight.

The Ohio River is in good stage for boats and it has rained more than ordinary during past month. Mother warm.

With regards to Miss Eads and love to yourself

Your affectionate nephew,

E. C. Means

June 26th 7

F. A. Heyne Esq Agent
Covington Ky
Dear Sir:

Your letter 22nd inst at hand
Found enclosed receipt for $199.50 insurance
repair account - Also tax receipt for
$40.00 for City of Covington June Duplicate
You report collections May & June as follows:

Mr. A. Boyd	$5.00
Mr. Stacy	6.25
Mr. Rohrer	6.00
Mr J. Anderson	4.00
Mr F. A. Heyne	20.00
Total	$41.25

leaving $1.25 still due - Your commission $4.13 to be applied on unpaid rent -
Will enclose sheet for July 1st showing amounts due and unpaid -
How are you progressing with the painting
Yours truly;
W. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Fill this out and send in July 1st 1897

		June?	June Rent	
302 Main	F. A. Hyne	47.13	15.00	62.13 -20 = 42.13
302 " up	Staay	5.00	5.00	10.00 - 6.25 = 3.75
" down				
304 " up	Boyd	10.00	5.00	15.00 - 5.00 = 10.00
" down	Miller	10.00	Moved out	
1692 3rd St up	Rohrer	8.00	6.00	14.00 - 6.00 = 8.00
" " down	Anderson		Moved in	4.00

Your rent 42.13 less 4.13 - $38.00 due July 1st

Staley rent - 3.75 " "
Boyd " = 10.00 " "
Rohrer " - 8.00 " "
Anderson " - " "
Miller " - 10.00 past due.

Please state what Anderson owes July 1st
Regarding repairs Your checks have
amounted this year to $75.40
We Paid Insurance Co 37.35
Leaves for repairs to date $38.05
as I suggested to you

July 1st 7

William Means Esq
Yellow Springs O
Dear Sir:

Enclosed find a draft on First National Bank of Cincinnati O for Eighty five ($85-) Dollars payable to your order on account of Miss Margaret A. Means as per your request to her June 26th Please acknowledge the receipt of the above amount from her and oblige

Yours truly;
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

July 8th 97

Hon Lawrence Maxwell Jr
Cincinnati O

Dear Sir;

We are advised by our atty Mr. John D. Hager that the amount of costs due to Mr. Buchanan Perin Sp. Ex. in case of Cowen et als vs Adams et als is subject to some claims on the part of Gen. Cowen. We therefore delay sending you a check on account of Perin's services until an adjustment of his account with Gen Cowen has been made.

Which we trust is in accordance with your opinion of the matter. If not please advise.

Yours very truly;

E. C. Means

July 5th 97

Hon Lawrence Maxwell Jr
Cincinnati

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find checks payable to your order for (1) Three thousand ($3000) Dollars (2) Twenty two hundred & fifty eight 31/100 ($2258 31/100) Dollars from Administrators of Estate of Thos W. Means. By the advice of Mr. John F. Hager these checks are sent to you in order that you may obtain for us proper vouchers for filing in the Boyd County Court or U. S. Court as may be required The check for Three thousand ($3000) Dollars is for the Trustees Covenetals and is on account, as we understand it, of Wm Means' distributable share as legatee in his fathers estate and unless you deem it not advisable, we would prefer proper receipt from Trustees & Lawyers too -
The check for $2258 31/100 is to pay Finnel Clerk $1293.62 and Printing Record $964.69 -
When obtained kindly send vouchers to

Yours very truly: E. C. Means

July 8th 7

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Today T. M. Adams and myself as Administrators with the will annexed have sent checks to our attorney Mr. Lawrence Maxwell Jr to pay court costs of $2,255.31 in suit of Cowden et als Trustees of Wm Means etc and $3,000 cr to pay to the Trustees or plaintiffs in the suit.

We will also have to pay $1,250 cr for additional costs inside of 30 days.

By agreement of attorneys on both sides no further payments will be required before October. When it will be determined whether or not the Supreme court will hear the case.

When you were here last you told me that as soon as any payments were made to the Trustees, Cowen, Williams & Frazier or their attorneys, that you desired that thereupon I should cease remitting from your funds to William Means; acting then upon your instructions I shall not remit any funds to him upon his request to you

#2 M. A. R.

July 8th 7

unless I have instructions from you to do so—

My last remittance to Mrs Means from your funds was $85.00 July 1st in response to his request to you dated June 26th

Rain today prevents a picnic at Cliffside Park by the Means & Seatons for which all preparations are made—

We have been having intensely warm weather for two weeks—

Our coal miners are still at work but may strike at any time—

We are all well and send much love to you. With regards to Miss Eada

Your affectionate nephew:

E. C. Means

July 10th 7

F. A. Hyne Esq Agent
Covington Ky
Dear Sir!

Yours favor 10th inst at hand enclosing check for Seventeen 75/100 Dollars Reporting collections as follow

W. R. Miller	$10.00	
Mr Stacey	2.50	
J. Anderson	4.00	
F. A. Hyne	13.71	
" Commission	3.02	
Total	33.23	
Balance brought from	1.25	$34.48

Contra

Check	$17.75	
Repair Bills	2.16	
" "	11.55	
Hyne Commission	3.02	34.48

Your checks to this date have amounted to the sum of $93.15
Paid for insurance 37.35
Available for repairs $55.80 - Yours may expend that amount for repairs of chimneys. painting etc

#2 F.A.H

My agreement with you was that we would apply all net rentals after deducting Insurance, Taxes etc to the repairing of the houses— This I find now amounts to $55.80 which I authorize you to expend in repairs—

			Balance	Due Aug 1st	Sept 1
300 Main	F. A. Heyne	$21.27 + 15. =	36.27	51.27	
302 " up	Stacy	1.25 + 5. =	6.25	11.25	
" down	to tenant				
304 " up	Boyd	10.00 + 5. =	15.00	20.00	
" down	to tenant				
169 E 3rd up	Rohrer	8.00 + 6. =	14.00	20.00	
" down	Anderson	6. =	6.00	8.00	

The above indicates the amounts due as I understand your account with the different tenants—

I expect to be away during August so you can use the July rents for repairs and send me statement.

Yours truly,

E. C. Means Agent

for Margaret A. Means—

July 13th 97

Joseph C Finnell Esq
Clerk U. S. Court
Covington. Ky -
Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith find the check of Adams & Means Administrators with the will annexed of the estate of Thos N. Means deceased on the Highland Nat Bank for Twelve Hundred and fifty ($1250.00) Dollars payable to your order - This amount being due from us on account of costs of Sp Ex. Buchanan Perin in case of Coven et als Trustees vs Adams Etals heretofore we sent check to Hon Lawrence Maxwell Jr for your account $2.258.31 for which we have no receipt from you - Kindly send receipts for both amounts that we may have vouchers for Boyd County Court -

Under separate cover we forward accounting to July 5th 97 as required of us -

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

July 1st 97

E. A. Law Esq Treas
New York
Dear Sir:

The deed received and forwarded with date of acknowledgement inserted.

We notice by last weekly report received that work of "B" fce has improved but that the per centage of iron obtained from the ore is still low.

Iron business with us is dull and we are disposing of only two thirds of our capacity, holding one furnace idle and trying to unlock the money tied up in stocks.

Unless something serious arises from present miners strike I hope to go to Lake George about the first of next month with Mrs. M & child

If we go through N.Y. as is probable, will call at your office.

With regards

Yours respectfully,

E. C. Means

July 14th 7

Thos A. Mack Esq
New York.
Dear Sir:

Your note due Aug 5th in favor of John Means has been placed in Ashland Nat Bank for collection, $3.000— which we trust you will meet upon its maturity: Yours truly;

E. C. Means

July 19th 7

Mrs Sarah McChesney
New York City
My dear Madam:

Enclosed find New York Exchange for the sum of Two hundred ($200—) Dollars in payment of room etc of Miss Margaret A. Means from July 20th to August 24th 1897, five weeks.

Please acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours respectfully;
E. C. Means
Agent for Margaret A. Means

July 20th 7

Wehner & Son
Cincinnati
Gentlemen:

Please make and send to me, not later than 27th inst. one pair trousers, of medium dark grey cloth, to cost not more than $8 00. To be worn with black coat.

Yours truly,
E. C. Means

July 23d 7

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Herewith letter to you from Wm Means 22d inst.
Your letters to Ruby & myself from Seabright were duly received.
As I may be detained here by miners strike and Harriet Evelyn has suffered so much from her experiences with last hot weather, I have proposed to Ruby that she shall not wait for me but leave here about the 2d of Aug for NewYork and go either near or where you are and I will leave as soon after as the conditions of affairs here will warrant.
We are anxious to accomplish two things, among others, (1) to have Father go away with our party (2) to be with you.
As both Father & you suggest that Lake George is a warm place in summer why should we not abandon that idea and seek a cooler place? Can accommodations be secured where you are now? and would it suit you to have all stay there for a time? Or would you prefer to have

#2 M.H.M.

a change and all go to some other place.
I have a Del & Hud guide but have not investigated it very extensively and only selected Lake George because of its noted scenery.
If you will be so kind as to write and let me know how Ruby, Mary & the baby shall go from Jersey City or New York to reach your place, it may assist them and be so simple a journey that Father could be induced to undertake it.
He suffered from the extreme heat and I feel very anxious to get him away.
Our miners are all working now but affairs are uncertain and I do not feel like leaving here until some settlement of the general strike occurs.
Aunt Mary is arranging another picnic this afternoon in honor of her visitors Miss Dora Seaton & Miss Debard of Greenup
With love and hopes of seeing you soon
Your affectionate nephew
E. C. Means

July 31st 7

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Enclosed find a letter from William Means for you which came in envelope addressed to me. I have written him as follows:

"Your letter 28th inst to Miss Margaret
"A. Means enclosed in envelope addressed
"to me, will be forwarded to her.
" At present I have no instructions
"as her Agent to make the remittance
"requested.

As I understand your wishes in this matter, my authority to remit from your funds to William Means upon his request, in limited amounts, ceased when there was paid $3000.00 to the attorneys of Cowen et als Trustees of William Means et als from the funds of the Estate of Thos W. Means.

While I am not positive about the matter, I presume the attorneys managed to get all or nearly all of the $3000.00 although it was paid, to be considered part of William Means one-fifth interest in his fathers estate in case the Trustees finally won the

#2. 7/31 7

suit now in U. S. Court— Trustee Coenen, I am told by our attorneys, consented to the arrangement whereby the judgement against the Administrators of the estate was suspended until October— If the payment of costs and the $3,000 had not been made the Administrators would have been called upon for the full one-fifth interest of William Means— and while we are trying to get the U. S. Supreme court to hear the case on appeal— It is not by matter of right on our part that we can demand it but only as a matter of courtesy— Or in other words; the law presumes we have had all the justice we can of right demand of the courts and the Supreme court is under no obligations to hear our case, unless it chooses to do so—

So the $3000— is paid to the Trustees to keep them from demanding, at this time, all of the ⅕ interest of William Means and if in October the Supreme court will not hear the case, we will have that much less to pay to the Trustees—

#3 7/31 7

Ruby, Mary & H. E. will leave here Tuesday Aunt Mary will not be with them but we have succeeded in putting Father on the doubtfull list — and he may go — It never looks as if I will have to go later, as the miners near by are beginning to strike and may try to get our men to abandon work —

Charley left for Asheville yesterday —

With much love

Your affectionate nephew

E. C. Means

July 31st 7

L. A. Walters Esq

Cincinnati O

Dear Sir:

I presume the only thing to do is to take what we can get —

Please note attached letter from Mr. Hack and send new note and interest for note due 5th prox — Yours etc

E. C. Means

July 3d 67

William Means Esq
Yellow Springs, O.
Dear Sir:

Your letter 28th inst to Miss Margaret A. Means enclosed in envelope addressed to me, will be forwarded to her. At present I have no instruction as her Agent to make the remittance requested.

Yours truly:
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Aug 17th 7

W. L. Ringo Esq Gen'l Mang
Ashland Improvement Co
Ashland, Ky

Dear Sir:

Before leaving for the East, as I expect to do in a few days, I think it proper as a matter of good friendship to advise you of Fathers course in connection with notes of the Improvement Co and the Street Ry Co owned by him— He has left the notes with Mr. W. C. Richardson, Cashier with instructions that if the Geiger notes are unpaid and the interest unpaid upon the other notes, suit is to be brought at the coming term of the Circuit Court for the entire amount.

It is a course exceedingly unpleasant for him on account of his friendship for you and his desire to see all Companies succeed in Ashland but as any other method for relief has not manifested itself, he has concluded that it is best for his interest to act as proposed—

8/12 7

#2 W. L. R.

If you can make the arrangement proposed by W. C. Richardson before the time named above I am sure it will be a relief to Father to know that the other course will not be necessary

Yours truly:

E. C. Means

Sept 9th 7

F. A. Hyne Esq Agt
Covington Ky

Dear Sir;

Your letter 6th inst at hand enclosing check for $12.72 in settlement account as follows:

Rents Collected July & August

H Roher	$11.00	
Stacy	10.00	
Anderson	4.00	
F. A. Hyne	30.00	$55.00

Credits Check $12.72

F. A Hyne for painting	$30.00
" " Commission	5.50
Water Rents	2.50
McClung-Turner	4.28 $55.00

Yours truly;
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

See my letter July 7th

Rents unpaid July 1st			July & Aug Rent				Your report as collected		
Hyne	$21.27	+	30.00	=	51.27	−	30.00	=	21.27
Stacey	1.25	+	10.00	=	11.25	−	10.00	=	1.25
Boyd	10.00	+	10.00	=	20.00	−		=	20.00
Rohrer	8.00	+	12.00	=	20.00	−	11.00	=	9.00
Anderson			8.00	=	8.00	−	4.00	=	4.00

No report for 302 down
" " " 304 "

Rents uncollected Sept 1st 1897

300	Main St		F. A. Hyne	$21.27
302	"	" up	Stacey	1.25
304	"	" up.	Boyd	20.00
169	E 3rd	" up	Rohrer	9.00
"	"	" down	Anderson	4.00

Sept 19th 7

Mrs Sarah McCleaney
Newyork City
My dear Madam:

Enclosed find Newyork Exchange for the sum of One hundred and thirty eight ($138.00) Dollars in payment of rooms etc of Miss Margaret A. Means from Aug 24th to Sept 28th five weeks -

One week	@ $10	$10-
Four weeks	@ 12	165
		208
Less rebate for summer		70
		$138

This is in settlement as verbally explained to me by Miss Means—

Please acknowledge receipt

And oblige Yours respectfully

E. C. Means

Agent for Margaret A. Means

P.S. We arrived home safely with pleasant memories of our visit. Mrs Means & Harriet join in regards to yourself & Miss Clarke

Sept 17 7

Thos A. Mack Esq
Cincinnati O

Dear Sir:

Your note in favor of John Means for $2626 2/5 dated April 5th 97 will be due and payable at Ashland Nat'l Bank Oct 5th 97 Kindly bear this in mind and endeavor to pay same upon maturity

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

Sept 21st 7

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Your letter of 17th inst at hand and the questions therein I shall answer as best I can—

"How do you suppose that Will or his family are in need of money for current expenses?"

I judge that there is no real want or need but that could be relieved by the use of property in control of himself or his family. From what Mr. Anderson says has been written to him by your brother Williams, it appears that he would not agree to the simplest method to give you what protection he can to secure the repayment of any future loans. Mr. Anderson suggested that William give you his notes and orders on the trustees, properly accepted by them + the family to pay the notes from any money coming into their hands. Such a simple method was promptly declined—

Why? Because William never expects to repay any money he gets from you but thinks he can work the sympathy racket (reverse slang) for money and all the time reap out of promise to repay you—

#2

He probably reasons in his own mind, that his success in getting his debts paid by Grandfather and later come in for one fifth of the estates was very smart- So he begins by asking you if the Administrators had paid you and the orders given to them in 1891, probably well aware that they had not and could not without an order of court and the latter only obtainable after a law suit with the Trustees. Metropolitan Bank and perhaps others- But the question was asked to show you he wanted it done(?) and then follows a request for money- But when Mr. Anderson asked him if he would secure past loans if you advanced more, William proposed a scheme that Mr. Anderson at once tells you will not do and advises you to keep out of it- Then Mr. A. proposed the plan of notes & orders for future remittances only and it was declined-

Mr. A. suggested to William, that if he could secure you so that you would be safe in giving $1200 per year for an indefinite period that he might get the money from somebody else on

to

the same terms & conditions — Do reply & tell
Why is he invited if he can secure any one
so that they could be safe in advancing
$1200 a per year indefinitely? $1200 is
6% annual interest on $20.000. It is more
than interest on $20000 when it do given
free of taxes and best securities yeild but 4%
Where is the property of value more than
$20.000 a which can be used for security
but not for ready money? Why only you
can get money out of it? I think Uncle
did well to warn you to keep clear of entangle
ments, and if as William owns, you could
be secured why not some one else and therefor
why is he in need with so much security —
I think it well for you to keep in mind
these conclusions and continue under Uncle
advice if you wish repayment for future
advances —

With love

Your affectionate nephew

L. C. Means

Mary was standing on chair when she fell — She is
about well again —

Jas A. Collins Esq
Secty C & Ry Co
Cincinnati O

Sept 25 97

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find Draft of the Oakland National Bank for $208 00
Kindly make remp out (1) $200 =
(2) $8 00 in name of Miss Margaret A. Means
and oblige yours truly:

E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Sept 27th 7

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Enclosed find a draft of the Ash'l Nat'l Bank on New York bank for One thousand ($1000.00) Dollars from your funds as per your request: 3rd

We are having a dusty season and no rain, warm days & cool nights. Navigation suspended upon the Ohio River on account of low water. We are recovering from our colds in head — Last week we attended wedding anniversaries of Judge & Mrs Houston & Mr. & Mrs James Patton and a card party at Judge Savage. This week we are expecting to entertain Mrs. John Lindsey & her daughter Miss Lilian, from Frankfort — And perhaps Mr S G Cargill from Low Moor, a friend of mine —

The iron business is improving and orders are coming in greater number. The same is true of the brick business. We now have hopes for a good winters trade in iron — The strike is settled in most places and coal trade brisk.

With much love from all —

Your affectionate nephew

E. C. Means

Oct 2nd 97

Hon G. W. Stone Auditor
Frankfort

Dear Sir:

Noticing a newspaper report that bonds issued by a corporation paying a franchise tax are not taxable where the corporation & owner of bonds are both residents of this state - I beg to inquire if the report is true and would apply to the bonds of such a corporation (1) as this and the (2) Electric Lighting Co of this place -

An early reply would oblige

Yours respectfully

E. C. Means

Oct 4th 7

Mrs Sarah McChesney
46 West 21st St
New York

Dear Madam:

Enclosed find draft of the Ashland Natl Bank upon the National City Bank for the sum of Two hundred and ten ($210.00) Dollars in payment of the rooms etc of Miss Margaret A. Means from September 28th to ~~October~~ November 2nd five weeks @ $42.00 per week.

Please acknowledge receipt.

With regards

Yours respectfully:
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Oct 12th 7

Irwin, Ellis & Ballmann
Cincinnati O

Gentlemen:

In conversation with one of the members of your firm last Saturday, 9th inst, I mentioned the possibility of your selling a new issue of bonds contemplated by the Ashland Steel Company and promised to write about the matter.

Today I have seen Mr. J. A. Kelly the president of the company and with his approval of putting the matter before you for consideration, enclose a statement which explains itself.

If after reading it you think it worth your while to have a conference with Mr. Kelly so as to arrange matters to put you in proper position to undertake the sale of the bonds, you can write to him, at this place.

As I stated to you, he will allow a liberal commission if you succeed—

Yours truly:

E. C. Means

Oct 12th 7

Irwin, Ellis & Ballmann
Cincinnati

Gentlemen:

The Ashland Steel Company was organized in 1890 by the representatives of the (1) Stanton Iron Works of Ashland Ky
(2) The Kelly Nail & Iron Co " Stanton O
(3) The Belfont Iron Works Co " " "
Each of the three companies taking a one-third interest in the new company and still hold same -

The steel works were completed and put in operation the latter part of 1891 and have continued in operation as the market warranted until the present time.

In addition to supplying steel plates for the three nail mills owned by the above named companies, it has sold steel in the general market, Newport, Jacksonville, Birmingham Richmond, etc etc

Owing however to a change in the nail trade whereby the wire nail has supplanted to a large extent the cut nail and orders are now for wire nails and mixed lots

#2

say a carload of wire nails, cut nails and smooth wire in varying proportions. It has become, in the opinion of the three owners of the Steel Works, advisable to add to that plant a Rod Mill of modern design and large capacity, and to the Nail mills, wire drawing plants and wire nail machines.

There being required a large amount of money to equip each of the three nail mills for the manufacture of smooth wire and wire nails, the owners do not feel able at this time to advance to the Steel Co the necessary amount required for the rod mill, and prefer instead, by giving a first mortgage upon the present Steel works as well as the proposed Rod Mill, to secure a loan with which to build the rod mill.

The present value of the Steel Works including its real estate is estimated by Mr. Kelly, the President, to be $4400.000 and the amount desired to build and equip the Rod Mill $225.000 - which he seeks

#6

to borrow @ 6% annual interest.
The form of mortgage and bonds, and place of payment of interest to be agreed upon with the purchasers of the bonds.
The present daily capacity of the steel works is from 350 to 400 tons of billets and the proposed rod mill will have the same capacity in finished rods.
The amount sought to be borrowed is for additions to the present plant.
The stockholders of the Steel Company will insure a market for its output through purchases for their nail mills and are strong companies which would use every endeavor to see the repayment of the new loan in order to save their interest in the steel works.
Wire rods will be manufactured in the proposed Rod Mill, according to Mr. Garrett who has made the designs, under most favorable conditions and at low cost.

Yours truly,
E. C. Means.

Oct 20th 7

W. J. Crain Esq
% Grand Hotel
Cincinnati O
Dear Sir;

Enclosed find proxy of myself & father which you will kindly vote against the proposition outlined by Mr. Dale in his letter of 18th inst.

The proposition is being forced on the Stockholders of the Argand Co in a manner that is not of good appearance considering the statement enclosed with Mr. Dales letter showing earnings of past 3 mos.

While it may be a very favorable proposition under the circumstances, as a rule I find when the other fellow is in a big hurry, it is for his advantage.

Without hearing from our Lawndale people I know it will be a great disappointment to them. Can't we call out instead?

Yours truly;
E. C. Means

A. P. Hager Esq
Ashland

Oct 22 97

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find check for Four ($4.00) Dollars in payment insurance policy 6.545,837 in favor Margaret A. Means on "Roaring House" in Ashland.

Yours truly;

E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Oct 23rd 7

S. G. Cargill Esq
Low Moor Va
Dear Sir:

Your favor 21st inst duly recd. Mr. W. J. Cram of the Argand Refining Co has just been here and explained to us the situation which called for the recent meeting in Cincinnati. He also stated that while a majority of the stock of the company was voted in favor of the lease another meeting would be called for 5th prox to give all a chance to be heard or hear.

We regret the situation in which the company finds itself owing to the efforts of the Standard Oil Co to secure its customers. And while until this time the Standard Co has worked with them in maintaining prices in certain territory from now forward he believes the reverse will be true and where ever necessary to cripple the Argand every move possible will be made. So far as the carbon oil and local city or country trade is concerned no great profits have been realized nor can any be expected in the future.

#2

But the greater portion of the profits of the company have come from its rail road business and the Standard Co has started after that business in a way that cannot be headed off. Through their York influences and high officials, purchasing agents of the rail roads are simply ordered to purchase oils and sign contracts for from 5 to 10 years at prices that are higher than those quoted by the Argand Co and making every effort and working on every line they can the Argand people are unable to get the business. The business of several roads which were very profitable is about to be taken from them and it appears that the present proposition was made to relieve the company from death by energetic fighting and that the officials of the Argand Co are pleased to get as good an offer as they do. They feel that the influences which can compell a stockholder of the Argand Co to buy oils for his RR at higher prices when applied generally will soon crush them out.

#3

Mr. Crane believes that 40 to 45% of the Capital Stock can be wiped out by the conversion of the personal property & plant of the Co into cash - 6% annually for 10 years will follow - So that the loss of interest will be only on about one half of the whole -

He regrets the situation but when a situation like the present occurs he feels that it is of the best interest for all to get out with the least loss possible -

He has told me privately of some of the dealings of the Standard which I will explain to you later in person -

I do not like the idea of giving up a 10% stock at par on such long terms of payment but as we bought the stock on its earning capacity I believe that we are lucky to get out as well as we expect

Yours truly;

C. C. Means

Oct 26 7

F. A. Heyne Esq Agent
Covington Ky
Dear Sir!

Your letter 24th inst at hand- enclosing check for $18.10 in settlement account as follows:

Rents collected Sept 1st to Oct 20th

Stacey	$8.75	
Roher	13.00	
Anderson	2.00	
Ramey	5.00	
Baven	1.25	
Heyne	10.00	$40.00
" Commission	4.00	$44.00

Credits— Check $18.10

Commission	4.00	$22.10
Bills- Jno M. Ramey	$1.65	
" G. W. Harvell Paint Co	1.90	
" J. H. Norris - Plumber	.75	
" Covington Excelsior Co	1.80	
" Wm Barg - Hauling	1.50	
Crockett " J. E. Berkeley - Notice	.50	
" Strotman Bros Paper	1.66	
" " "	2.60	
Walter Co " 2.50+2.00	5.50	
Heyne Cellar work	4.00	21.90 $44.00

#2 F. A. H

Oct 26th 7

See my letter Sept 9th

Rents unpaid Sept 1st	+ Sept & Oct Rent	Collected	Due Nov 1
Hyne $21.27	+ 30.00 = 51.27	− 14.00 =	37.27
Stacey 1.25	+ 10.00 = 11.25	− 8.75 =	2.50
Boyd 20.00	+ 10.00 = 30.00	− Paid out =	30.00
Roher 9.00	+ 12.00 = 21.00	− 13.00 =	8.00
Anderson 4.00	+ 8.00 = 12.00	− 2.00 =	10.00
Ramey (Report when in?)		5.00	
Bowen		2.50 − 1.25	1.25

You will see from above the amounts due November 1st from each tenant except Ramey of whom I have no record as to when they went into house and when their rent is due.

Kindly try and collect close next week and report

Yours truly

E. C. Means Agent

for Margaret A. Means

Oct 28th 7

Dear Aunt Margaret:

As per your request 28th inst I enclose herewith from your funds a Newyork draft for One thousand ($1000=) Dollars

I note you wish to sell your Ironton Iron Works stock but you do not state the least you will take for it- The last sale I know about was $2,000 par value for $600= or on the old basis before the reduction of Capital 12¢ on the dollar. Until yesterday I believed the stock was worth that amount but today I am very uncertain about it- The Furnace has been leased to the A.C.&S.Ry. Co @ $6.000= per year, the lease earning nearly 2% on the total capital of $311.000= but yesterday a majority of the directors voted to terminate the lease next April- And I judge that T.M. Adams & Mr Houston believe they can run the furnace at a profit- It is possible that they might succeed but I very much doubt it- and would have much preferred that the present arrangement with the A.C.&S. Ry Co be continued-

#2

Under the new laws of this state, in case of a failure, the stockholders of the Norton might be called upon to pay their pro rata proportion of any loss - and for that reason, if for no other, I should prefer to continue as at present -

If I can succeed in getting an offer for your stock I will take pleasure in submitting same for your consideration -

Today it looks as if we might have an end to the drought - and a storm -

By the way, Charley Means & Kenny Butler favor an effort to exchange on some basis Norton Stock for A. C. & S. stock, and let the A. C. & S. have absolute control - The A. C. & S. for a number of years has paid 4% annually and there is no liability in case of failure - If a majority of stock of the Norton could be so exchanged it would be in my estimation a good move for both companies - We are all well and local politics are lively - With love

Yours affly

E. C. Means

Oct 29 7

D. W. Steele Jr Esq
Parkland P

Dear Sir:

Father has requested that I reply to yours of 28th inst to him, to the effect that his state of health is such as to compel him to refrain from discussing business matters, except when necessary.

As suit mentioned in your letter to him is one that he has no greater interest in the result than any other tax payer, he prefers not to discuss the matter with you at this time.

Under a different condition of health I believe he would be pleased to have a conference with you about the matter

Yours truly:

E. C. Means

Oct 30th 97

Frank Lyman Esq
New York

Dear Sir:

Yours 25th inst at hand. Was just thinking of writing to you about the Rich Patch or field in line with a conversation of last winter or spring. Mr. P. N. Moon was here 25th inst, and I suggested to him that we might take the property under lease or by purchase. Four years ago he was in close touch with the Shanahans and will put himself in communication with them again if we request. But before doing so he prefers that we decide upon our own willingness to lease or purchase and upon terms we can offer. He will do what he can as agent without disclosing the name of his principal. His present engagements will not permit him acting in this matter for at least a month; so that we can talk the matter over at the meeting

F. L #2

Moore said Mr. Ingalls has repeatedly requested Limto find funds for a Rich Patch furnace - and that Ingalls is friendly to Shanahan -

Regarding the billing of iron, I am of your opinion, but have had no experience in the selling of iron as to the details - Have always had the idea that at least an acceptance of each order stating price should be sent to each customer upon receipt of advice of sale from Agent - and that bills for same should be sent to customer and duplicate to agent - Would want the agents assistance in making collections if same were slow. All agents should remit all collections immediately - However this Co is no model, rather the reverse, giving from accounts due from agents - and no doubt has been often imposed upon - But with agents like M. A. Hanna & Co (Cleveland) & Pickands, Brown & Co (Chicago) they feel called upon to trust them - It would be a good move as you suggest I believe -

10/30 97

A.Z#3

Before closing permit me to add that I hope you will be able to report upon a plan for a consolidation of some strong coal interest with the Low Moor Co at no very distant date.

I regret to learn that Mr. Merry's asthma has caused him to make two trips to Baltimore for medical attendance - and hope he may be benefitted.

We are all interested in the Newyork city election and have high hopes of Mr. Seth Low's success.

With regards.

Yours truly;

E. C. Means

Nov 1st 97

Mrs Sarah J. McChesney
#46 West 21st St
New York

My dear Madam,

Enclosed find draft of the Ashland Nat'l Bank upon the National City Bank for the sum of One hundred and Sixty eight ($168.00) Dollars payable to your order. This in payment of the rooms &c of Miss Margaret A. Means from November 2nd to Nov 30th Four weeks @ $42.00 per week.

Please acknowledge receipt

With regards

Yours respectfully;

E. C. Means Agent

for Margaret A. Means

Nov 6 97

Frank Lyman Esq
New York
Dear Sir:

Your favor of the 4th at hand. Have read the correspondence about basic iron with considerable interest. Without further consideration and information would be inclined to take Mr. Merry's view of the matter. I am told that experience here was to the effect that there is no economy over casting in sand when casting in chills. The chills require washing with clay after each cast in addition to repairs from time to time. The danger of trouble in the furnace operations and of small profits for off iron would probably be considerable. However if thought advisable I should be willing to make a trial of 5000 tons at Covington in connection with the next blast there. We are going to make some old fashioned open pit coking tests of our coals here next week.

With regards — Yours etc. E. C. Means

Nov 11th 7

W. J. Crane Esq
Gr Grand Hotel
Cincinnati O

Dear Sir:

Judging from the vote at the meeting of the Argand Co Oct 22nd there will be no rescinding of the resolutions passed at that time - Therefore I consider it useless to attend the meeting in person. You have the proxies of Father & myself, kindly vote them in the negative as before if the matter of the lease is again put to a vote, by so doing you will oblige -

Yours truly;
E. C. Crane -

Nov 13th 7

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Your letter returning one from New Orleans duly received. Hereafter I will follow your instructions and submit same to Mr. Anderson instead of forwarding to you. I have mailed the one referred to above to Mr. Anderson and expect to see him soon. It was simply a matter of thoughtlessness on my part in forwarding the letter to you instead of to Mr. Anderson. It occured to me that you would send it to him for reply - and for the moment I lost sight of the fact that you prefered Mr. A. should read the letters first.

Herewith Lowndes proxy which please sign and mail to me at Lowndes be as I shall leave here Tuesday. Ann is hopes Father will go with me to meeting. He has a bad cold and looks miserable If he stays at home as now, I agree with you, that his life is liable to be short, much shorter I fear than we realize, His wife should take him South for the winter.

#2

It appears that none here can get him out of doors for proper exercise -

We have had rain sufficient to raise the river to light packet stage and the Pomeroy boats are running - The Pittsburgh boats start to day

The Iron business is not so good owing to usual slackness at this time of year for new business. However all furnaces here about have sold out past since July 1st but have not made great reductions in stock.

Parties from Pittsburgh have two gas wells about 2 miles from Cattlettsburg which appear capable of supplying all the houses with gas for domestic use. Fire Brick business continues good and we have prospects for a good output all winter -

With much love

Your affectionate nephew

E. C. Means

Nov 16 7

The Cincinnati Street Railway Co
Cincinnati O

Gentlemen:

Enclosed find Scrip certificate No 12485 in name of Margaret A. Means kindly send certificate of Stock for Four (4) Shares ($200=) and Scrip for balance $8.00 All in name of Margaret A. Means

Yours truly:

E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Nov 22 7

H. G. Merry Esq
Low Moor Va
Dear Sir:

Father & I arrived home safely and all the better from the trip- Bert Warner has appeared with Mr. P. J. Mahoney of Goshen, to inspect the Belle Font lands, (Means & Russell down Co.)- Charley Means tells me that Mahoney represents Eastern parties and has inspected several properties which were purchased-

Charley feels that we ought to have an expression of your opinion of the man and his abilities to place such properties before possible purchasers- Any thing of interest will be treated with confidence on our part- Will you kindly write me such information as you may have about the man which would interest us under the circumstances-

With regards to Mrs. Merry, the boys & yourself

Yours truly

H. G. Means

Nov 29th 97

Mrs. Sarah J. McChesney
#46 West 21st Street
New York City

My dear Madam:

Enclosed find draft of the Ashland Natl Bank upon the National City Bank for the sum of Two Hundred and Ten ($210.00) Dollars payable to your order. This in payment of the rooms, board etc of Miss Margaret A. Means from Nov 30th 97 to Jany 4th 98 five weeks @ $42.00 per week

Please acknowledge receipt and oblige.

Yours respectfully
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Dec 1st 7

Dear Aunt Margaret;

Your letter 29th inst at hand- Herewith find enclosed a draft from the Ashland Nat'l Bank upon the National City Bank for One thousand ($1000.00) Dollars as per your request-

I have forwarded to Mrs. McChesney a draft for $210.00 paying for your room etc in full to Jany 1st 98-

Have placed an order for $5000.00 par value Old Colony R.R. stock for you It will cost over $9000.00 probably $9200.00 and will appear in the annual statement

Will do what I can about the photographs but am afraid it will be slow.

H. E. wants Santa to bring her a horse & buggy she is considerably disturbed over the loss of her rubber "Patsey" who appears to have wandered away from the rest of her toys. For a time she said "she did not want anything she had enough" but now she thinks she would like Santa to bring something-

There is a good boating stage in the Ohio and all boats are running-

#2 M.A.M

12/1 7

Ruby is getting up an Art Exhibition and Fair for the Baptist Church and has managed to get a large share of the work upon herself. She has dressed a number of dolls to be sold—

The Ashland Improvement Co made an assignment today owing to suits by the Ash. Natl Bank, Father & others— Mr. Rigg still has charge as assignee.

Mr. Maxwell writes that our case may be tried in Washington in March and if not then, not until next winter—

Mr. Anderson has had some correspondence with Mrs Means and will inform you about it in due time—

We regret to learn from Bessie that there is some doubt of your coming to Ky during the holidays and hope you may decide to come—

With love from all

Your affectionate nephew

E. C. Means

Dec 1st 7

F. A. Tilyne Esq Agt
Covington Ky

Dear Sir; Kindly send in your report of collections & disbursements Taxes I believe are due today —

Yours truly;
E. G. Means
Dec 3 —

Thos A. Mack Esq
Cincinnati O

Dear Sir;

Your note of April 5th 97 for $2626 75/100 and due Oct 5th has not been paid nor renewed —

Another note dated 5th for $3060 — will be due next week — Both above notes are in favor of my father John Means.

Cant you arrange to settle the notes by giving a check in payment of interest and part of principal so as to reduce the principal to $5000 —. Then give new note for $5000 — and put it upon a business basis with collaterals.

Very respectfully;
E. G. Means

Dec 10th 7

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Your letters of 7th & 8th inst. duly received—

The Old Colony R R Stock was ordered through the Ash. Nat. Bank and the Nat. City Bank of New York and the latter in turn through a Boston bank— Mr. Richardson has a letter from the NewYork bank saying that the Boston bank would try and pick up the stock a few shares at a time as a very little was for sale and that it might be some time in getting the 50 shares— I notice in the stock reports from Boston that $198 per share is being bid— You can see same in your morning paper— So far we have not received any notice of a purchase on your account and it may take a higher bid to get the stock you want—

I have not received from you a report of "donations" for past year to credit your expense account. Kindly keep it in mind and send a memorandum of same to me before the end of this month that I may get in report for year—

The Baptists will be thankfull for your kind

#2 M.A.M.

12/10 7

remembrance- As the church is not able to keep up as well as some others here- And it is a surprise to me that their collections are large enough to pay pastor $600= per year.

Regarding Mr. George Stalte my impressions of the young mans character are these: He is one of the kind that while you cannot say he is bad, nor lazy, nor mean yet he appears to accomplish nothing- He is at times ambitious but lacks that something which brings success- He dresses neatly, does not, so far as I know, associate with bad company appears to seek good society- He has tried to get away from his father, with the idea that his abilities were beyond a life in the tailor shop, but each time finds himself brought home to get his fathers bread and support- I presume he would not impose on a benefactor but I should not advise the loaning of money to him for any purpose- For his own good it would be best that he be compelled to stick to some occupation and depend upon himself for support- To sum up he needs the conceit changed to worthy self esteem

#3 M.A.M. 12/10 7

It is difficult to convey my impressions by writing but perhaps you have known others with similar dispositions-

I was at the Alice Hill Fire Brick Works last Wednesday and I believe from what I saw there that they can make bricks for less money than we can at Ashland- And if they increase their plant extensively it may result in less earning capacity for those at Ashland- While I do not feel yet that it is best to sell my own stock in the Clinton Fire Brick Works, I am undecided as to the best policy for you- And believe it may be well for you to gradually reduce your holdings- A few weeks ago E.B. Mason would have paid 110 for a few shares and may yet do so- If you will advise me how you felt about this matter I can act accordingly- The stock has paid 9% annually in each the past two years and so far I have considered it a good investment-

All well- With much love

Your affectionate nephew

E. C. Stearns

Dec 10th 7

D. W. Steele Jr
City
Dear Sir:

Enclosed find check in payment of Geo H Mead Clerk's bill vs Margaret A. Means — for court costs $7.85/100

Kindly receipt for

Yours truly

E. C. Means Agt

Dec 16th 7

William H. Guild & Co
#11 Bromfield St - Boston Mass
Gentlemen:

Enclosed find check Ashland Natl Bank for Twenty five 70/100 Dollars ($25.70) in payment of subscriptions as follow:

Harpers Weekly (Renewal) Thos. H. Means.	Ashland, Kentucky	$3.45
Cosmopolitan (Renewal) Willis L Ringo	Ashland Ky	1.00
Judge	5 Renewals	
Harold Means	Ashland Ky	4.25
W. B. Seaton	" "	4.25
W. E. Maynard	#144 Sixth Ave Brooklyn N.Y.	4.25
Dr. E. L. Bullard	Waukesha, Wis	4.25
W. N. Mayo	Ashland Ky	4.25
		$25.70

Please acknowledge receipt and kindly hurry forward your orders to publishers as some delays occured last year.

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

Dec 16th 7

H.S. Chamberlain Esq
Secty Argand Refining Co
Marietta O
Dear Sir:

The check for the 15% dividend duly received. Have not collected same pending the looking up of certain legal matters. If my attorney shall advise that it will not effect any future rights to question the proposed lease or actions of the Directors of the Argand Co I will proceed to collect it.

Yours truly,
E. C. Means

Dec 17th 7

Frank Lynaw Esq
New York

Dear Sir:

Yours 8th inst duly received. I have been very busy and as you were away delayed writing.

Respecting the lease proposed by Hon. Peter McLaren, I believe it well to close but for one year our present royalties. And as the lessor is of same view, as well as yourself as I remember, I presume there is little to suggest and simply follow the terms of the present lease - stating as a preamble that the present lease is terminated to the satisfaction of all parties without further liability on account of it.

Our experiments in coking the native coal here are proving successful.

Shall be pleased to see you when you conclude to have conference.

With the compliments of the season

Yours truly:

E. G. Means

Dec 17th 97

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Your welcome letter of 14th inst duly received. I found enclosed your check on the Ashland Nat'l Bank in my favor for Nine Hundred ($900.00) Dollars for which please accept many thanks. While I always recognize the right of the employer to advance wages, in his or her judgement as deemed best, it sometimes is surprising when the amount of services is considered. I could not be otherwise than very grateful for your course in so often advancing my compensation for caring for your business affairs when the increased work, care & advice has not been in proportion. I acknowledge payment in full for all services rendered on your account during the year 1897 with thanks and love.

I note the amount you have considered as donations and will enter it upon your books.

Efforts which appear to promise good results are being made to establish a rod mill here. The Steel Co will issue bonds and the Stanton Iron Works, Kelly Nail Co & Belfont Iron Works and the

M.A.M #2 12/17 7

A.C.&S. Ry will each guarantee the payment of one quarter (1/4) of the total number of bonds— The first three are stockholders and feel the rod mill to be a necessity to preserve their nail business— It will put them in position to manufacture "Wire" nails as well as "cut" nails Wire nails have become so popular that there is very little market for old style or cut nails— The A.C.&S. Ry will have the contract to supply all the coal for the Steel Plant & Rod Mill so long as the bonds are unpaid which they have guaranteed— And we believe it will be a valuable contract with great benefit to the A.C.&S. Ry— I do not however intend to buy any of the bonds for your account, as I understand you prefer other lines for investments— It is probable the bonds will be sold in a bunch to city people—

Experiments in coking the coal from the new mine on our lands near Ashland are proving successful— The lands bought from the Means & Russell Iron Co

With much love and wishes for a Merry Christmas

Your affectionate nephew

E. C. Means

Dec 18th 7

Frank Lyman Esq
New York
Dear Sir!

Yours 15th inst with enclosures at hand and contents noted.

If the Rich Patch Iron Co makes the Lee Moor Iron Co a proposition to lease on a royalty basis for a term of years, with or without a privilege of purchase, I should be pleased to consider it promptly in connection with yourself & Mr. Henry.

Any proposition to purchase outright, unless at a very low price, would not appeal to me for prompt consideration but I would favor a submittal to the full board at its next meeting.

I have serious doubts as to future values of Virginia ore lands requiring shaft mining or extensive underground work.

Have been informed that the Iron Gate people have leased the Buena Vista Fee — Is it true?

With regards

Yours truly,

E. C. Means

Dec 24th 7

L. F. Walters Esq
Cincinnati, O
Dear Sir:

Replying to yours 18th inst would state that the writer being busy neglected to reply promptly:

My calculation of interest due upon Mr Thos A. Meeks' notes is as follows:

Note dated April 5 and due Oct 5th 97	$2626.75
Interest Oct 5th to Dec 20th	32.83
	$2659.58
Note dated Augt 6 and due Dec 5th	$3060.00
Interest Dec 5th to Dec 20th	7.65
	$3067.65

If you will kindly send note in favor of John Means dated Dec 20th @ 6 mo $2626.75 and note
" " " @ 4 " 3060.00
and check for $176.98, I will be obliged and will return old notes—

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

P. S. Will write you later about coming to meet Mr Lyman — Meantime you might send the letter as requested—

Dec 27 7

Thomas A. Mackay
197 Fulton St Newyork
Dear Mr Mack:

Yours 20th inst at hand—
I have agreed with Mr. Walters to renew notes making new notes dated Dec 20th one for 4 mo's and the other for 6 mo's, which I trust meets with your approval—
The loan of $3000 was requested for 4 mo's and I have insisted upon its payment or a prompt renewal of the note when due—
I agree with you in the probability of better prices for your bonds during next year and trust you may succeed in finding a purchaser with the same views—
Our coke experiments are proving satisfactory
With regards—
Yours truly,
E. C. Mears

Dec 27th 77

Frank Lyman Esq
New York
Dear Sir:

Yours 24th inst at hand & noted. Have talked with Father about the matter of starting Covington Furnace and find he agrees with Mr. Law and thinks it better to reduce stocks before starting. This is also your view. I on the other hand am inclined to differ and hold to the opinion that Covington Nos should be put into blast and operated until the Law Moor furnace is ready.

We should be able to market more than the out put of one furnace by pushing the business in channels not now thoroughly canvassed. Here we are starting the 3rd furnace because we are selling more iron than we are making with two furs. At Hanging Rock, my last report covering six weeks, shows the sale of the out put during the same period and a small reduction of stock. While the Law Moor reports show an increase of stocks with but one furnace in operation. Next year will be a test of the market to take any make of iron, unless we are mistaken in anticipating it will be a good

F.Z #2

year in the iron business— And I for one favor getting our share of the business— At Covington Fce the stock is No 1 & No 2 F. which is held for advanced prices in face of the fact that every foundry reports the use of No 3 satisfactory and an expressed unwillingness to pay more for No 2 & No 1— We should make a smaller advance in price between the different grades and seek a better price for the No 3. I judge it will take 3 months at least to repair "B" Fce and while I do not believe the L. M. I. Co is an institution for charity, I do have a kindly feeling for employees who have remained with us for years, taking reduction after reduction in wages without striking and thus aiding and supporting us in reducing costs and these men I would like to see employed— I would propose entering a six (6) months campaign at Covington Fce and get if possible a final estimate of the value of that furnace to our company, as a running plant.

I have requested from Mr. Walters a letter giving the opinion of that office as to prospects in their territory— to show you when we meet— I told

F.Z. #3

Mr. Walters that you would probably come here or to Lou Moor next month and that we would discuss the matter of sales of iron. On the 24th I received a letter from him suggesting that he or Mr. Wallingford or both if we desired it could come in person and talk with us. I replied that I would write him later about coming to meet us and meantime to send me the letter requested.

I shall be in Cinti 11th prox to attend a Directors meeting of Steamboat Co and Father may be with me. If you could arrange it we could meet here and go togather to Cinti or have Walters come here to meet us.

I shall also be in Columbus O sometime soon to test the washing plant of the Jeffrey Coal Pany upon our coal and do not want that trip to interfere with meeting you.

With the compliments of the season

Yours truly:

E. C. Means

P. S. This office is cold, 60°, so excuse penmanship.

Dec 27th 97

F. A. Stone Esq Agent
Covington Ky

Dear Sir:

Your favor 22nd inst duly received enclosing check for Seven 29/100 Dollars in settlement your account as reported:-

Rents collected Oct 24th to Dec 22nd 97

	H. Roher	$6.00	
	J. Anderson	10.00	
	J. M. Ramsey	10.00	
	Mrs Bowen	3.00	
	Mrs Stacey	10.00	
	F. A. Stone	20.00	$59.00
Credits	Check	7.29	
	Commission	5.90	
Receipts	Taxes	40.00	
	Glass	.46	
	Plumbing	2.25	
	Lumber	1.00	
	Glass	.60	
	Repairs	1.50	$59.00

See my letter of Oct 26th and note that there are uncollected rents as many of which as you can get in

O. A. H #2

in full do so and remit this week so that we can start with little owing next year—

Less 5.50 omitted in Dept

Rents due from 1st	Nov Dec Rent	Total collected	Due Dec 31st
Hyne	27.27 + 20.00	- 6.27 - 20.00	= 41.27
Stacy	2.50 + 10.00	= 12.50 - 10.00	= 2.50
Boyd (Put out)	20.00		20.00
Roher (moved Dec 20th)	8.00 + 12.00	= 20.00 - 6.00	= 14.00
Anderson	10.00 + 8.00	= 18.00 - 10.00	= 8.00
Ramsey	10.00	- 10.00 - 10.00	=
Bowen	10.00	- 10.00 - 3.00	= 7.00

See below

Let me know if this agrees with your account—

Yours truly,

E. C. Means Agent

for Margaret A. Means

Hyne writes 28th Dec

Mr Roher to Dec 18 — owes $12.00

Anderson " " 16 — " 4.00

Ramsy " 30 — " 5.00

Bowen Jan 22 — " 5.00

Mrs Stacy moved out paying 1.25 in full

Dec 28th 97

L. Z. Walters Esq
Cincinnati O

Atty for Thomas A Mack

Dear Sir:

Your favor 27th inst at hand enclosing renewal notes of Thomas A. Mack dated Dec 20th

4 mo. note payable to John Means $3060.00
6 mo. note " " " " 2626.75
Check " " " " 176.98

for which we thank you. Do return

L. Z. W. *2

Herewith old notes of Thos A. Mack in favor John Means
(1) Aug 5th 1897 @ 4 mos $3060.00
(2) April 5th 1897 @ 6 mos 2626.75

Yours truly,
E. C. Means

Dec 28th 7

F. A. Hyne Esq
Covington Ky
Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith leare made to Lucind Bowen of rooms in 30 & Main St which I return as you requested

Yours truly;
E. C. Means Agent

Dec 29th 7

The Cinti Safe Deposit & Trust Co
Cincinnati O
Dear Sirs:

Enclosed find Draft for $20.00 in payment renewal of safe W B Seaton and E. C. Means

Yours truly;
E. C. Means

Dec 31st 7

F. A. Hyne Esq
Covington Ky
Dear Sir:

Yours 28th enclosing check for $5.25 duly received—

In settlement of account as reported

Rents collected Stacy 1.25
Bowen 4.00 — $5.25

On which your commission would be $0.52 to be credited your account—

I find in my statement that your jany payment of $22.00 and $4.00 commission was considered by me as being in payment of part of your rent due in 1896 instead of this year 1897— And that in Sept I neglected to credit the commission of $5.50 on the sheet showing rents due— With this correction my account shows that your credits for the year are $138.23 instead of $~~15.92~~ 164.08 reported by you— Leaving a balance of unpaid rent for 1897 of $41.77—

On separate sheet I itemize your credits

$41.77
less .52
$41.25

Yours truly;
E. C. Means Agent
For Margaret A. Means

F. A. Heyne – Rent account

1897 Jany 16th paid $23.01 Commission which I have considered as paid on 1896 rents –

Jany 30th	Rents	5.40	—	1897 Rents
" "	Commission	1.81	"	"
Mar 1st	"	1.20	"	"
April 1st	"	3.22	"	"
" "	Rents	3.50	"	"
May 8th	"	6.90	"	"
" "	Commission	2.82	"	"
June 23rd	Rents	20.00	"	"
" "	Commission	6.82	"	"
July 10th	Rents	13.71	"	"
" "	Commission	3.02	"	"
Sept 6th	Rents	30.00	"	"
" "	Commission	5.50	"	"
Oct 23rd	Rents	10.00	"	"
" "	Commission	2.00	"	"
Dec 22nd	Rents	20.00	"	"
$180 —		$138.23	—	$41.77
	Commission 28th			.52
Balance due –				41.25

Jany 4th 98

Mrs Sarah J. McChesney
#46 West 21st St
New York

My dear Madam:

Enclosed find draft of the Ashland Natl Bank upon the National City Bank for the sum of One hundred and sixty eight ($168) Dollars payable to your order.

This in payment of the rooms, board etc of Miss Margaret A. Means from Jany 4th to Feby 1st 1898. Four weeks @ $42 per week

Please acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours respectfully

E. E. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Trial Balance - Jany 3rd 1898 - Books of M. A. Means

Ledger page			Ledger page		
2	Covington Real Estate	850000	1	Capital Stock	38966986
3	Kilgore Lands	357500	59	Dividends	454800
6	Cincinnati 4% Bonds	500000	125	Insurance	15815
7	A. C. & I. Ry Co "	3000000	136	Interest	1031082
9	Eureka Iron Co "	1500000	143	Rents	51578
12	Bills Receivable	4631221			
15	Ashland Nat Bank Stock	300000			
16	2nd Nat Ironton " "	400000			
17	Norton Iron Works "	1240000			
18	Means Kyle & Co "	2700000			
19	A. C. & I. Ry Co "	5390000			
20	U. S. Gov 4% Bonds	10000000			
24	Columbus & Xenia Ry Stock	500000			
25	Dayton & Mich RR. Com "	200000			
26	Clinton Fire Brick "	440000			
"	Del & Hud C. Co "	1420000			
27	Chic. & Nor. Mst. Ry "	200000			
"	Low Moor Iron Co "	560000			
28	New York Central Ry "	200000			
"	Ports Gas & Elect. Co "	275000			
29	Cinti Street Ry "	540000			
"	Old Colony RR "	400000			
39	William Means a/c	456560			
41	Citizens Natl Bk "	394654			
56	Wm Means Extr & Trustee	1361068			
65	Ashland Natl Bank a/c	513077			
104	Profit & Loss	341392			
115	Expenses	1403565			
116	Donations	122800			
128	Taxes	14091			
149	Commission	3214			
152	Repairs	29310			
242	Court Costs	785			
244	David Conley	11160			
245	Mary A. Thorne	20000			
285	Assignee of A & H. Lampton	152500			
286	Estate of Louis Hearing	92364			
		40520361			[illegible]

Jany 7 98

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Herewith I enclose

(1) Trial Balance Jany 3rd 1898
(2) Profit & Loss a/c: Jany 3rd 97 to Jany 3rd 98
(3) Expenses & Donations a/cs " "
(4) Taxes, Repairs etc a/cs " "
(5) Dividends & Interest a/cs " "
(6) List of notes Jany 3rd 1898
(7) Assets - Valuations - " "

You will please notice that I have not added the assets as I was doubtfull about the value of some of the accounts and two of the notes - The (1) Hemmingston & (2) Means notes - You will also notice that your expense account was larger than usual and that the balance in the Profit & Loss account was brought down and not carried to the Capital Stock account as is usual when a credit is shown at the end of the year -

Dividends, Interest & Rents year ending Jany 2nd 1897 amounted to $15.162.72 : " " " 3rd 1898
" " 15.374.60 - Nothing was received from the Estate of Thos W. Means during the past year -

A comparison with the list of Bills Receivable will show that some notes have been paid and others charged to different accounts. It is probable that the notes of A & H. Hampton will be returned by the assignee without any payments made upon them, as I understand he has not found much could be obtained from the assets turned over to him.

If you desire it and will furnish me with the address of W. H. Hunniston I will write to him and request payments upon the note.

We are having some difficulty in collecting the rents at Sligo but think we can get something more than taxes & repairs this year.

If there are any further reports you desire kindly request them and I shall forward same.

With much love and best wishes for a Happy & prosperous new year.

Your affectionate nephew

L. C. Means

P. S. We cannot find any more Old Colony stock at present and have cancelled order for the other $1,000.

Jany 7th 8

N. J. Cram Esq
Secty The Argand Refining Co
Marietta O
Dear Sir:

Your favor Jany 4th inst at hand. I found enclosed your check for $115.00. As a portion of the check is a dividend of 3/4 of 1% from a rental which I as a stockholder have never sanctioned I shall be pleased to learn whether if I return the check to your company you will have two new checks sent to me. Making a distinct separation in the tender of payment of the two dividends. One check being for $100.00 as a 5% dividend of the Argand Co and the other for the 3/4 of 1% as stated in your letter.

An early reply will oblige

Yours truly:

E. C. Means

Jany 7th 5

Clerk of Washington County Records
Marietta O

Dear Sir:

The Argand Refining Company of Marietta having leased its property to the Solar Refining Co in November last it is probable the same has been placed of record in your office-

Will you kindly advise me promptly the cost of securing a certified copy of same-

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

I enclose stamps for reply-

Jany 8th 95

Hon Chas. G. Dawes
Washington D.C.

My dear Charley:

Mr. A. C. Campbell of this place is an applicant for the office of Bank Examiner in Kentucky. And as I understand the appointment of Bank Examiner is directly under your control, I feel that being a mutual friend in this instance, that it is not improper to suggest to you that Mr. Campbell possesses proper qualifications to assume the duties of the position he seeks.

Your friends here feel that they can safely recommend Mr. Campbell for the position, and as his friends, also, urge the appointment. He is now and always has been Republican in politics.

We are pleased to see your prominence and success in National affairs and wish you still more of each.

With regards. Yours truly,

E. C. Mccann

Jany 10th 8

Frank Lyman Esq
New York
Dear Sir:

Your favor 6th inst at hand with proposed draw Mt. Lease - So far as I can see from reading of the lease, it should be considered satisfactory to the Low Moor Co. In the absence of any request to sign same I return it unsigned -

Today I leave for Cincinnati and my time will be fully occupied until Friday noon. Under the circumstances I prefer that you come to Ashland say Saturday 15th inst - 1.10 P.M. train I will see Mr. Walters and arrange that he come here Saturday afternoon on 3.40 P.M. train We can finish with him that evening and can have after that time to go over all matters with Father - Taking Sunday & Monday or as long as you will favor us with a visit. We shall expect to entertain you at our home and let you get acquainted with Mrs. M. and the young lady that rules us all -

Yours truly;
E. C. Means Supt

Janry 10th 8

L. F. Walters Esq
Cincinnati O
Dear Sir:

It is possible that I may see you either Tuesday or Wednesday next in the event I do not and you do not hear from me to the contrary, please arrange to come to Ashland on the train leaving Cinti Sat. noon 15th as I expect Mr Lyman here that day.

Yours truly,
E. C. Means
Pres.

Janry 14 8

F. A. Hyne Esq
Covington Ky
Dear Sir:

Yours 10th inst came while I was away from home in Cincinnati. If I had known about the floor I could have called and seen it.
Have it repaired and put in safe condition as you suggest.

Yours truly:
E. C. Means Agt

Jany 14th 8

W. J. Cram Esq
Secty The Argand Refining Co
Marietta O

Dear Sir:

Jany 7th I wrote to you as follows:

"Your favor 4th inst at hand. I found
" enclosed your check for $110.00
" As a portion of the check is a dividend
" of 3/4 of 1% from a rental which I as a
" stockholder have never sanctioned I shall be
" pleased to learn whether if I return the
" check to your company you will have
" two new checks sent to me. Making a
" distinct separation in the tender of payment
" of the two dividends. one check being for
" $100.00 as a 5% dividend of the Argand Co and
" the other for the 3/4 of 1% as stated in your letter.

Upon my return from Columbus I find that by mistake I enclosed the letter to the Clerk of Washington County Records and not to you And sent a letter intended for the Clerk to you.

Kindly answer above inquiry and oblige

Yours truly: E. C. Means

Jany 14th 5

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Your favor 12th inst at hand - As per your request I herewith enclose a draft upon the National City Bank of NewYork in your favor for One thousand no/100 ($1000 no/100) Dollars. from your funds in the Ashland National Bank—

I am pleased to learn that the results of last years business are satisfactory to you.

The list of stocks for sale by Ellis, Irwin & Ballmann was sent to show you the value of the Street Ry Co stock which you own and the value of the Citizens Natl Bank stock which you do not own but where your money is in part deposited. I have not bought any Citizens Bank stock for you and did not believe that you wanted any more bank stock at present.

Have you any preference of investments now? Most stocks on the markets reports are high and not likely to yield a great amount; less than 4% appears to be the basis—

I was in Cincinnati Tuesday & Wednesday and called on Mr Linton at his office - He is quite

#2 M.A.M.

feeble but still looks after his affairs.
He was locking up the office at dark and as he came down the stairs I wondered why some one does not be with him at all times.
He talked a great deal about business, taxes etc. He will be 90 years of age soon.

C.C. Clarke at his own request was not elected Post of the 2nd Ward of Boston. Oscar Ritchy takes Clarkes place. I hear that Clarke has lost a considerable amount in the tie business.

We are expecting Mr. Frank Lyman tomorrow He will visit Ruby & me for a few days. Comes on Lumber business.

With much love to yourself and kindest regards to Miss Dora

Your affectionate nephew
C. C. Means

Jany 19th 8

H. G. Merry Esq G. M.
Law Moor, Va

Dear Sir:

Yours 18th inst with inclosure at hand As I am not acquainted with the value of the Huddleston lands and their accessibility, am not prepared to make any recommendation As a matter of prudence, however, I believe it a good plan to tie up the lands for a few months if we can do so by the payment of a few hundred dollars, paid from month to month, until we can determine our best course, with no further liability in the event we do not care to continue the lease of make a purchase - I have indicated in pencil a few changes which I would suggest.

I presume Mr. Lyman has acquainted you with our conclusions after our meeting here in regard to Covington Fee -

Trusting the work is progressing rapidly in the repairing of Fee B and with regards to yourself & Mrs Merry -

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

Jany 22nd 98

C. A. Hammond Esq
Secty A. S. of Ry Supts
Asbury Park. N. J.

Dear Sir.

Enclosed herewith payment $5.00 for dues—

In regard to meeting in July, would state that if I can arrange to get away at that time I shall probably attend with my wife—

As our road is short, we are short of passes and the expense of the trip would be quite heavy unless passes can be secured.

We do not feel that we can ask the larger roads to exchange passes—annuals—but for trip passes for such a trip, I do not feel it would be an imposition to make such requests as would get transportation for self & wife.

Can you assist me in this case?

Yours truly;
E. C. Means Supt

Janry 22nd 98

F. A. Laidley Esq G.M.-
Cincinnati O

Dear Sir:

Mr. Henry Herbst a merchant of this place and a member of City Council has suggested to me that his daughter Mrs. F. G. Myers does a large proportion of his buying and goes to Cincinnati as his representative. His shippers pass does not include her and I assured him that you would willing send one to her. In this case I believe it good policy to please Mr. Herbst and would suggest that you send Mrs. F. G. Myers a pass like the one furnished Mr. Herbst-

Yours truly
E. C. Means Supt

Jany 22nd 8

W. J. Craw Esq
Secty & Treas Argand Refining Co
Marietta Ohio

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith you will find check of the Argand Refining Co for $115 00/100 payable to my order—

Kindly forward to me instead two checks, one of which for the amount of my dividend from the earnings of the Argand Refining Co of 5% or $100—

The other for the proportion due me as a stockholder from the rental from the Solar Refining Co which you stated to be 3/4 of 1% The rental being from a lease to which I as a stockholder of the Argand Refining have not consented or approved and do not yet consent to or approve—

Yours truly
E. C. Means

Jany 24 5

Thos A. Mack
Cincinnati O

Dear Sir:

Yours 21st by Mr. Mallingford at hand.

I hope Mr. Ingalls will make satisfactory rates to points that will result in business to the Law Moor Co.

Did you forward Mr. Lyman a copy of the rates or shall I forward the one I have to him?

I note the following stocks on hand at Parsons

22nd inst.	No 1	No 2	Silvery
Law Moor	5912	8068	1052
Covington	4012	1753	235

No word from Mr. Lyman since he returned to St. L.

With regards

Yours truly,

E. C. Means

Janey 29th 8

Frank Lyman Esq
New York
Dear Sir:

Your favors 24th & 26th inst. at hand. Regarding the Iron Mt lease, I would much have preferred the new one drawn by Mr. Parish than a continuance as proposed by Mr McLaren. I judge that his letter of 17th inst implies that all has not been satisfactory under the old lease and that a claim may some day be presented to us. I believe it would be well while Mr. Merry is with us to get a definite expression from Mr. McLaren as to whether every thing is satisfactory up to this time. If it is not so, let us try and make it so. It does not appear to me advisable to continue with an uncertainty and possibility of complications hereafter. Would prefer to mine only from our own property than to continue work upon the Iron Mt property with a future "review and consideration of nearly all of our business relations".

Enclosed herewith a letter from Mr. Walters of which I presumed you had a copy.

F. L. #2

It appears that Mr. Ingalls will consider the matter of freights with Mr. Walker. I find at Hanging Rock they had a similar experience to that at Covington when they allowed coke to be sent in from several places and now they get their coke from our place only. The ruling price for coke is now $1.95 per ton 2000 lbs. f.o.b. furnaces at Ironton for either Kanawha or Pocahontas coke — And the R.R.s do the furnace switching —

I have been on the go almost continuously since you were here and this is the first day that I have been able to do any writing of a personal nature —

Father has gone to Hot Springs with his wife for an indefinite visit. We were urging him to visit Mexico but could not persuade him that it was the proper thing to do.

I trust your Father is improved and that Mrs Mills is better —

With regards.

Yours truly,

E. C. Means

Jany 31st 1

H.S. Merryman
Law Manor Pa

Dear Sir:

We have been endeavoring to get the Standard Oil Co to take over Argand Stock, including yours & Cargills, and have not yet received an answer. I have returned the check for my last dividend and received in return two checks one for dividend from the assets of the Argand and the other for the rental-dividend. There I still hold while considering the question of bringing suit to annul the lease.

I learn that the man in charge of the Baltimore house, or Standard office, was in the negotiations for the lease. Have you tried to get the salesman to interest him in taking the stock off our hands? I find that here and at Law Manor something over $21.000 par value of the stock is held and that we were well "taken in."

If you have cashed your last dividend check it might be well to notify the Argand Co that you do not however approve the lease and

still reserve yours right to question it in Court - as
well as the right of the Directors to winde
the assets of the Company without provision
to retire the Capital Stock and relieve the
double liability of Stockholders -
Our proposition is to sell our stock at par
less the dividends received since Nov 15th 97 -
I shall be pleased to learn what you
and Cargill have done in the matter -
With regards to all -
Yours truly
E. C. Means

Febry 1st 8

Mrs. Sarah J. McChesney
246 West 21st St
New York

My dear Madam:

Enclosed find draft of the Ashland Nat'l Bank upon the National City Bank for the sum of One hundred and sixty eight (168) Dollars payable to your order -
This in payment of the rooms, board etc of Miss Margaret A. Means from Febry 1st to Mar 1st 1895 - Four weeks @ $42.00 per week.
Please acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours respectfully:
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Pkby 7th 8

Frank Lyman Esq
New York
Dear Sir:

Herewith I enclose letter from Mr. Wallingford which explains present status of affairs with Mr. Ingalls concerning freights I always regret to see Mr. Hotchkiss brought forward in such negotiations because he never displays any liberality - but wants the railroad to have all -

From Mr. Effingwell, who was at Low Moor 10 days ago, I learn that it will be the 1st of May before "B" furn. will be in blast -

Since writing you I find our company here is getting some coke @ $1.20, but I believe the consideration is confidential, from Kanawha If you should wish to make use of this information I can ask Col Putnam if he objects - but I do not believe he would do so -

Am expecting to attend the meeting 16th inst with Father -

With regards -

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

Feby 7th 8

Thos A. Mack
Cincinnati
Dear Sir:

Yours 5th inst at hand and forwarded to Mr. Lyman today -
It will be well to impress upon Mr. Hotchkiss that the most favorable conditions must exist to induce our Newyork people to consent to further operations at Covington -
Low freights and coke of good quality from one place on New River.
Pocahontas coke is sold very cheap to our competitors at Ironton - So is Kanawha coke Both less than $2.00 delivered and switched at the furnace -

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

For Mr. Wallingford -

Feby 7th 8

Mrs. Sarah J. McChesney
New York

My dear Madam:

Your favor of 5th inst at hand acknowledging receipt of check for One hundred and sixty eight ($168=) dollars-
As you did not state in the receipt that it was a payment for Miss Margaret A. Means I enclose a blank receipt which filed with your letter will fully explain it-
Kindly sign & return it and oblige
Yours respectfully
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Febry 12th 8

John S. Hager Esq
Ashland

Dear Sir: Herewith I enclose check of Miss Margaret A. Means drawn by me as Attorney in fact in your favor for sum of $52.50 in payment your account as atty in case Means vs Fearing &c. As per receipt you have handed me—

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

P.S. Commissioners deed also received from you—

A. E. Lampton Esq
Ashland

Febry 12th 95

Dear Sir:

Your application for situation made vacant by Mr. W. Boggess going to P.O. has been referred to our Mr. Robt Peebles, who will appoint a successor to Mr. Boggess— You had better apply in person; as no doubt there will be others seeking the place—

Yours truly: E. C. Means Supt

Febry 12th 8

Frank Lyman Esq
New York

Dear Sir:

Yours 7th & 10th both at hand. In Cincinnati Thursday I learned that Mr. Hatchkiss was there and would go over the matter of freights with Walters & Wallingford. It was not thought best that I attend the conference because it was represented to Hatchkiss that the Commission house of Thos A. Mack was seeking to induce the Low Moor Co to start Covington Gas and keep it going. And that the Commission house wanted to be able to state that the low freight rates would continue. As that was about the truth as I understand the situation I could see no reason for my presence at the meeting.

I note your points about Fuel for Covington. As no weights are taken of Low Moor coke, it has been my opinion for years, that the yield of coke from coal there was greater than 60% and the furnace reports were apparently better on that account. If the yield was less than 60% we would have heard of it promptly & constantly

to T. L. 2/12 5

The question of quality of fuel is well worthy of consideration and the best remedy is to have it come from one plant whether it be in form of coal or coke. No furnace will work regularly with coke from various ovens unless the coke can be stacked or held in cars and a regular proportion of each make used. But I believe we agree on this point and have for consideration with the C&O so far as fuel is concerned (1) The price. (2) Uniform & constant supply.

In regard to cost of moving ore & limestone on short hauls, where the C&O furnish cars, I doubt that a less rate can be secured. 15¢ per ton is now the maximum charge, I believe, and perhaps less as cars used often carry 30 tons.

If the Commission hours of Thos A. Mack can arrange so that an average of $8.25 can be secured for Covington iron I strongly advocate starting that furnace for a six or twelve months campaign at least. Costs should be lower than formerly because the plant is in better shape and running order. A new plant requires many repairs that might properly be considered as

#3 F.L. 2-12-5

construction expenses - These repairs have been made, as you remember, in the stoves - and no doubt at many other points about the plant -

I shall not be able to stop over at Law Moor but I have written Cargill that I am anxious to have a private talk with him and informed him that I shall be on N.Y. going East Monday - / Tuesday is his pay day and it may interfere -

Father is home from Hot Springs and is better in health as a result of his visit. He leave here Monday - and will reach Brooklyn Tuesday P.M. My visit will be limited and if I do not get to the Law Moor office Tuesday P.M. Perhaps you could come down to 261 - Sixth Ave that evening - if there are matters to be discussed before the meeting I doubt if we would have time to do so Wednesday -

Hoping to see you soon - With regards

Yours truly,

Ed. C. Means

Feby 18th 98

Mr Gazzam Gano
Cincinnati O

Dear Sir:

Replying to yours 17th inst. I have just returned from Newyork meeting of the Low Moor Iron Co and have not seen Mr. Kelly to learn present status of the Bond matter. When I left Monday, 14th, Mr. Harris had reported nothing promising.

The bond proposed is a first montage, 20yr 6%: int & prin. payable in gold. The Steel Co reserving the option to purchase at any coupon paying period within first ten years by paying par, 10% premium & accrued int. Option to be exercised after 6 mos notice by publication {several} times in 2 Cinti papers. The trustee to be selected, as well as place of payment for coupons & principal, to suit purchasers of largest number of bonds. I have advised Mr Kelly to issue circular asking for subscriptions among the Stockholders of the el guarantors and would

#2. B.B.

be pleased if you would do the same - I find that quite a number of my acquaintances are willing to take a portion of the bonds and believe Mr. Kelly can get a subscription list that would surprise Mr. Harrison and lead to good results - I shall try and see Mr. Kelly tomorrow and urge him to prepare a circular as above -

Was pleased to hear from you -

With regards

Yours truly:

E. C. Means -

Feby 19th 5

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Enclosed herewith proxy which please sign & return.

Reached home safely yesterday afternoon and found all well — Ruby & H.E. were pleased to have you remember them as you did.

I was sorry not to have been with you more for a social visit, but so much of my time is taken up with other company affairs that the one which overplays me, that unless I cut short my Newyork & Law store trips, I hesitate to ask for a summer vacation — Ruby is busy with a revival service at her church, with great interest in it.

As in New York the sinking of the Maine is the principal topic of conversation here.

Savage's Brick Works are not a total loss and with his insurance $2.000 or $3.000 will rebuild them —

With love

Your affectionate nephew:

E. C. Means

Febry 24 8

F. A. Hyne Esq Agent
Covington Ky
Dear Sir,

Yours 21st inst at hand with check for Nine 75/100 Dollars and sundry receipts.
You report Rents Collected since Dec 28th 98

J. Anderson	$8.50	
J. M. Ramsey	7.00	
F. A. Hyne	5.00	$20.50

You enclose for Credit

Check F. A. Hyne	$9.85	
Receipt { W. H. Owens Jr Plumbing	1.00	
" Water Works	2.50	
" { W. H. R. Wheeler Magistrates Court	5.65	
" G. H. Dressman	1.00	20.00
Your commission		2.05
		22.05
		20.50
Balance on your rent a/c		1.55

Which you will note is 50¢ less than your figures

Yours truly,
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Statement of Rents

Due from F. A. Hyne Dec 31st 41.77
Rent Jan + Feb 30.00
71.77
Credit Febry 21 6.55
Balance Feb 28th $65.22

Due from Anderson Dec 16th 4.00
Rent Jan + Feb 8.00
12.00
Credit 8.50
Balance Feb 16th 3.50

Due from Ramsey Dec 30th 5.00
Rent Jan + Feb 10.00
15.00
Credit 7.00
Due Feb 25th 8.00

Due from Bowen Jan 22 5.00
Rent Feb 5.00
Due Feb 22 10.00

What other rooms have you rented?

Febry 25th 95

Gazzam Gano Esq
Cincinnati

Dear Sir:

Replying to yours 20th inst.
As you have probably learned ere this that the circulars concerning the Steel Co bonds have gone out to the stockholders of the several companies interested, it was doubtfull in my mind whether you still wanted the circulars sent to you and I have not sent them - However if you still desire additional ones I can have Mr. Kelly send them to you -

I have just learned of a lady here who will take $10.000 — of the bonds and I do not doubt but what a large subscription list will be in hand when Mr Kelly again goes to Mr. H. However it will take considerable effort to raise the full amount required -

Yours truly
L.C. Means Supt

Febry 26th 8

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Yours 21st inst at hand with enclosed proxy - Yesterday I forwarded the Norton Iron Works proxy with circular concerning the Steel Co's bonds - Kindly sign the proxy and return to me -

In regard to sale of the N. Y. Central Ry Stock my opinion was that it was well sold at 118 and that if you could get that price to make the sale - Owing to the war scare the quotations have declined to 110 and it is now my opinion that you had better hold for the higher price - My recollection is that it cost 102 -

Mr. Gliddon has written to Mr. Hager that Patti Adams would have to go to a hospital for an operation and asked that the Estate of J. N. A. advance $700 to $1000 to the Trustees. He put it upon humanitarian grounds - Mr. Adams & myself as Administrators will decline to do so -

Mr. John D. Winslow of Cuba was here today and dined with us - Some of his friends will probably buy some of the Steel Co bonds - and he came here to look into the matter -

H.H.M. #2

People here are very much interested in the "Maine" investigation and some favor fighting. But as the days pass the hot headed ones become cooler and are inclined to let Pres. McKinley have his own way about it.

Ruby's protracted meetings have closed and there will soon be less danger of malaria with the keeping in out of the night air.

Tom Adams is still keeping close at the Ice Plant and appears very much interested in the new additions he is making there.

Sam Savage has begun erection of the building to replace those burned at his Brick Works.

We are all well and send regards to Mona and love to you.

Your affectionate nephew;

E. C. Means

Febry 28th 98

Mrs S.J. McChesney
#46 West 21st Street
New York

My dear Madam:

Enclosed find draft of the Ashland Natl Bank upon the National City Bank for the sum of Two Hundred and ten ($210-) Dollars payable to your order. This in payment of the rooms, board etc of Miss Margaret A. Keane from Mar 1st to April 5th 1898 - Five weeks @ $42 per week.

Please acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours respectfully:

E. C. Keane Agent
for Margaret A. Keane

Mar 1st 98

Haight & Freese
53 Broadway - New York

Gentlemen:

As per enclosed clipping from the New York Herald please send me your "Security Manual" 1898 Edition —

Yours truly:

E. C. Keane

Mar 3rd 98

H.G. Merry Esq G.M.
Low Moor Va

Dear Sir:

Your favor 2nd inst at hand—
Am pleased to learn that the Covington Fur will go in 7th inst— I certainly wish that good results shall be obtained there—
There is no furnaceman of my acquaintance that would suit you at Covington and if McIlwain would renew the former arrangement I should favor putting him in charge there. His experience in using our ores should count for a great deal and as the blast there will probably be of short duration, (unless iron is sold freely) a new man would not accomplish more than to learn how to work our ores— It is possible you may find a suitable man in Virginia—

With regards

Yours truly;

E. C. Means

Mar 5th 98

John D. Winslow Esq
Cincinnati

Dear Sir:

Your favor of 4th inst at hand. Mr. Kelly informs me that, including some $14000 of bonds that Mr. Gano asks to have reserved for a few days, he now has subscriptions for over $100,000- As this is in full of the amount Mr. Harrison required, it is probable that Mr. Kelly & myself will run down to Cin'ti next week and have a further conference with yourself & Mr. H.

Your suggestion that a premium commission might be arranged, appears in good light to me. Even if it were based on our continued efforts to sell the remainder of the bonds and applied only to those subscriptions we may secure in addition to the 110 or 115 we now in sight- it would be a saving to the Steel Co.

Yours truly,

E. C. Means Supt

Mar 5th 95

Gazzam Gaw Esq
Cincinnati

Dear Sir:

Your favor of 3d inst at hand enclosing proxies for Norton Iron Works meeting 16th inst H. A. Longhurst, L. A. Jones Est, H. C. Threlkeld, Hannah B Gaw, Amy L Gaw, Amazon Furnace Co and your own. All of which I presume are to be voted in favor of the proposed plan to secure the building of the Rod Mill & Mic Wearing Plant and are sent to me for that purpose.

The subscriptions to the bonds issue of

H. A. Longhurst 32 bonds $16.000-
H. C. Threlkeld 5 " 4.000-

Have been turned in to Mr. J. A. Kelly Pres of the Ashland Steel Co. I have also asked him to reserve 28 bonds until he hears from you next week. He now has $95.000 placed according to subscriptions in hand and as we will feel called upon to go to Mr. Harrison next week, if your additional subscriptions are

2

mat in by that time, one will call at your office prior to our visit to the Bank and hold the matter open until the last minute for you. It is probable that Mr. H. will at once place a premium on all bonds taken by him prior to maturity and as the bonds are only redeemable at 110 & I believe he would be right in doing so - Mr. Minshall reported to us that if we raised $100.000 - Mr. H. would take the remainder $140.000 - I do not presume he will insist upon having the full $140.000 and that we are limited to the sale $100.000 -

I would advise that stockholders favorable to the project be represented in person or by proxy at the meeting the 16th inst. There may be some opposition from those who fail to realize the true condition of the cut nail business and because of not having received dividends may oppose betterments which we believe necessary -

With regards - Yours truly

E. C. Means

P.S. Col. Putnam has just received a request from Pittsburgh to ask Kelly to renew $10,000 for a few days -

Mar 7th 7

Geo H. Parkes Esq
Wheeling. W.Va
Dear Sir:

Replying to your favor 5th inst. The writer shall be pleased to meet you and discuss the advisability of making an effort to consolidate the fire brick interests in this region.

Realizing that there is considerable competition in certain territory reached by your Olive Hill product and the product of the two Ashland yards, it seemed that the matter of a consolidation of interests was well worthy of consideration, and with this view in mind I suggested to Mr. Carlyle to present the matter to his people.

I have not undertaken to devise terms and conditions, as that would be useless until it is ascertained that a plan, fair and equitable to all concerned, will have serious consideration.

As President of the Clinton Fire Brick Works I would take pleasure in discussing the matter with you.

Yours truly,
E. C. Mears

Mar 12th 8

Frank Lyman Esq Treas
New York

Dear Sir:

Your several favors recent date rec'd. Have just returned from several days visit in Cincinnati and have not had before this an opportunity for reply.

I heartily approve of your actions in getting Covington Furnace started and hope for a successful campaign. There are some indications of labor trouble next month among the coal miners which may interfere with continuous operations on Kanawha and New River. My information is to the effect that no advance in wages will be granted voluntarily by the operators on line of C&O Ry.

Have heard nothing concerning Rich Patch Co. Met a Mr. Warrington in Cinti who said he once thought his interest in Potts Creek Ore lands was a bonanza but now thought otherwise.

At this time I cannot determine whether I can meet you at Low Moor, having meetings here 16th & 17th and from present indications considerable delay and much conferring will be required.

F. L. #2

Called at Mack's Cinti office Thursday but found clerk only there. Walters in Indianapolis and Wallingford in Pittsburgh. The clerk had copies of considerable business for Cov. iron. With proper attention to grading and analyses it will simplify matters for salesman.

With regards and best wishes for the new Treasurer

Yours truly,
E. C. Means

Mar 12th 8

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Your letter 9th inst at hand. Came while I was in Cincinnati completing financial arrangements to secure the building of the proposed Rod Mill - So far as I can see every thing is in good shape to go ahead as soon as the consent of the various companies are secured in approval - These consents will probably be obtained next week.

I return proxy you sent to me and it is entirely satisfactory that Tom represent you instead - I know it pleases you to do him a favor and he does not often request one - And further I judge you are opposed to the plan for securing the money and under the circumstances it is a relief to me not to have any proxies to vote against it, as I have given a great deal of time and thought to make the matter a success -

Regarding the N.Y. Central stock, my opinion is that at the price 115 ¾, which could be obtained last month it is well sold - I believe the road is being loaded down with bonds and guarantees and that the holders of the latter

#2 M. A. M.

are in better position in case of dull business periods than the holders of the common stock- And that the best thing to do would be to sell the stock and buy some of the bonds with the interest payable in gold- If you were to look at the statement of the amount of interest and guaranteed dividends that are to be paid before the stockholders get dividends it would surprise you- The Lake Shore deal just completed is another instance of how the Vanderbilts buy property and turn it over to the Newyork Central and secure a fixed amount yearly where before it was based on earnings-

Regarding the apartments, I presume you would have some advantages over present arrangements, but I doubt if they would equal the benefits offered by #46- Where you can go & come when you please for a day or a month- and have not the worry of servants and marketing- If the cost did not appear extravagant to you, it need not enter into the consideration of the matter- You could surrender possession at any time you found it too expensive

Such matters as how much and how little

#3 M. A. M.

of your income you should expend is
not for me even to suggest. It appeared
to me that the kindly interest manifested
at #6 in a way suggested home life but
if you feel a longing to have a more
personal direction of household affairs I
see no reason why you should not gratify it.
I remember that I have for a good many
years wanted to have this thing & that thing
a little different from what I got at home (Hatton)
or at boarding house - I have enjoyed housekeeping
and especially in my own home where a
personal preference is always considered -
You might even get a case of measles to
visit you occasionally just as Dorrade finds
at our house at present -
Regards to Miss Dora and much love
to yourself -

Your affectionate nephew;

E. C. Means

Mar 15th 8

F. A. Hyne Esq Agent
Covington Ky

Dear Sir:

You may have the house at #169 W 3rd St papered and the shutters replaced so that the house may be rented @ $8.00 per month.

Yours truly;
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Mar 18th 95

Frank Lyman Esq Treas
New York

Dear Sir:

Your favors 14th & 16th & wire 17th recd. It will suit me much better to meet you later at Law Mar, as I go to Cinti tomorrow. Father & I regret to learn of Mr. E.A. Law's illness and trust he may have a speedy recovery. Shall be pleased if you inform us of his present condition.

Dividends checks duly received.

Have heard nothing as to movements of Goshen people. With you, I regret the failure to secure the Huddleston property but have hopes it will come to our hands later: probably as Rich Patch has done, we supplying their only profitable(?) market - or by lease. Under present conditions in the iron business I do not fear much competition from a furnace located at Goshen unless the C & O Ry treat us unfairly. Yours truly E. C. Means

after so long a time our Red Mill project is in fair way to be carried through.

Mar 24 98

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Your favor enclosing letter of S S Spalding 22nd rec'd I have written to him not to sell the stock at present. The market may go lower but prefer to wait for a rise. Would like to get 118 or 120 for the stock. I refer to the N. Y. C & H R R R stock.

Ruby & Bessie Seaton are in Cinti shopping. Was down at Hanging Rock yesterday, saw Mr. Dillard & Mr Bull. Furnace not working well and will be blown out for repairs. Ohio River is getting up to nearly flood height but rain is about over and it is getting colder.

Arrangements are about completed to build the Rod Mill $202,000 of bonds have been subscribed for and only $240,000 will be required. Tom Adams has been placed upon the executive committee of the Steel Co which will have control. With love. Yours affect.

E. C. Means

Mar 24th 98

J. S. Spalding Esq
Newyork

My dear Sam:

Aunt Margaret has forwarded your letter 22nd inst to me for reply. My advice is now to hold the stock indefinitely before selling it- In early part of Feb. with quotations about 115 for N. Y. Central stock, I believed it a good time to sell out and so advised- The Vanderbilts were loading it down with guaranteed stocks & bonds and prospects were favorable for the election of a Democratic Congress next fall. Any slump in business would promptly affect the stock as any decrease in earnings would decrease the dividends- I am in hopes the opportunity to sell at good figures will come before Sept. Aunt paid 102 for the stock- With regards

Yours truly, E. C. Means

G.H. Mead Esq
Catlettsburg
Ky

Mar 28 98

Dear Sir: Dec 11th 97 I paid
D.W. Steele Jr on your account $7.85
your fee bill in case Margaret A Means
vs. Fred Hearing & others. On final
settlement Court allowed you $6.15
Kindly send me check for $1.70 to cover
over payment and oblige Margaret A. Means by
Yours truly: E. C. Means Agent

Mar 29th 98

John D. Winslow Esq
Cincinnati O

My dear John:

Yours 28th inst at hand. Have signed copy of minutes & forwarded. Note what you write about selection of new member of the Low Water Board to succeed the late Mr E. A. Law.

Without knowing the position of the Messrs Law & Lyman I do not care to propose any one to fill the vacancy, although the election of Mr. Butler would be entirely satisfactory to me.

If we can succeed in allying some strong coal interest by consolidation or absorption, it would meet my views as being a proper direction for growth of the company and it may be well to keep this in mind in connection with filling present vacancy.

With regards. Yours truly

E. C. Means

Mar 29th 8

E. B. Willard Esq Agent Heirs of Thomas M. Means &
Sarah Means
Hanging Rock O

Dear Sir:

Your favor 26th inst enclosing check No 6565 for $129.22 in favor Miss Margaret A. Means duly received and same has been deposited in Bank to her credit -

Thank you -

Yours truly;
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

April 1st 98

J. A. Boone Esq
Fayette, Wva
Dear Sir:

Replying to yours Mar 30th concerning Lease No 1 on South side of River adjoining your Brown Coal Co's lease—
I am inclined to believe that neither Mr. Lyman nor Mr. Merry would join me in entering into the arrangement you propose—as our object in going into any mining project would be to secure very low priced coal for our Loch Moor Co, and this your plan does not propose— That is to say, I do not consider the price of 75¢ per ton for coal as low a price as I believe ~~you~~ we can get from other mines on black coal— If you could name 55¢ per ton for coal passing through a 2 in screen it would be a different matter.

I return tracing herewith—

Yours truly:
E. C. Means Supt

April 1st 98

Frank Leyman Esq
New York

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find letter of J. A. Boone
Mar 30th The tracing I returned to him with
letter as follows:

"I am inclined to believe that neither Mr. Lyman
"nor Mr. Merry would join me in entering
"into the arrangement you propose, as our
"object in going into any mining project would
"be to secure very low priced coal for our Law
"Moor Co, and this your plan does not propose.
"That is to say, I do not consider the price
"of 75¢ per ton for coal as low a price as I
"believe we can get from other mines on Slack coal.
"If you could name 55¢ per ton for coal
"passing through a 2 in. screen it would be
"a different matter.

Trusting that your former title of Colonel
will not draw you into the Cuban war

Yours truly: E. C. Means

April 1st 98

Dear Aunt Margaret!

In response to letter 29th inst and as you request, I enclose herewith a draft of the Ashland Natl Bank upon the Natl City Bank payable to your order in the amount of One thousand ($1000-) Dollars which I trust you will promptly receive—

We have also received invitations to attend the Taft-Ingalls wedding— While I would not know Miss Jane Taft by sight, still I feel that some acknowledgement of the invitation is proper, and would be obliged if you make a selection and purchase a suitable present not to exceed $20.00 in cost— Upon your advice of the amount I will send you my check.

The Obio River did not get over the banks at Ashland and was not as high as last year at Hanging Rock, but I do not know whether it was out of the banks there— I learn the ferryboat was put out of blast Friday for repairs—

#2 M. A. M.

Ruby and H. E. have had bad colds but are now recovered - There appeared to be an epidemic here about a month ago.
I hope you have also gotten rid of yours - It no doubt would benefit you to come South to Ky for a visit - Our latch string is out and we are getting a fresh coat of paint outside and some new paper in the house so our friends will not be afraid to stop with us - Can we put your name down for a visit to us?

Ruby & H. E. are talking of going to Asheville in July to see Aunt Amanda & her family -

Every one continues to be interested in the Cuban matter and not a few favor war, but I have not heard any one state that he would volunteer -

With much love to yourself & Dora

Your affectionate nephew.

E. C. Means

April 2nd. 1898

Mr. M. E. Ingalls,
Prest. C. & O. R. R.
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Sir:-

Your favor of the 1st. inst. for which I thank you, at hand, and same has been referred to Mr. I. A. Kelly, Prest. of Ashland Steel Co.

We feel that improvements, such as are proposed, in the erection of a Rod Mill and Wire Mill, will be beneficial to the Rail-Roads, as well as to the Furnaces, Steel Works, and Nail Mills here and at Ironton.

The Directors of the Ashland Coal & Iron Railway Co. have gone as far, if not farther, in their efforts to secure the improvements, than they did to secure the original Steel Plant alongside their Road, and I trust that all parties may receive the full benefits anticipated.

Respectfully yours:-

E. C. Means
Supt.

April 2nd 8

James A. Collins Esq
Secty Cin Street Ry Co
Cincinnati O

Dear Sir.

Herewith draft for $216.00 for strip in name of Margaret A. Means. Kindly make same out in her name and forward here.

Yours truly

E. C. Means

April 5th 8

Mrs S.J. McChesney
#46 W 21st St
New York

My dear Madam:

Enclosed find draft of the Ashland Nat'l Bank upon the National City Bank for the sum of One hundred and sixty eight ($168.00) Dollars payable to your order -

This in payment of the rooms, board etc of Miss Margaret A. Keane from April 5th to May 3rd 1898. Four weeks @ $42.00 per week

Please acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours respectfully:

E. C. Keane Agent
for Margaret A. Keane

April 15th 8

F. A. Hyne Esq Agent
Covington Ky
Dear Sir:

Your 9th rust at hand with check for Ten 74/100 Dollars as stated
You report rents collected since Feby 21st to April 8th 98

Mr. Worwald	$5.00		
Jos M. Ramsey	8.00		
F. A. Hyne	20.00	$33.00	
You enclose for credit			
Check F. A. Hyne	$10.74		
Receipts H. Roltken Papering #169	9.32		
" " " #302	5.94		
Covington Water Works #169	3.00		
Geo Kiley - Plastering #169	2.00		
G W Howell Paint Co #302	.20		
Glass & Putty #169	.30	31.50	
Your commission		3.30	34.80
			33.00

Balance to your rent a/c 1.80

I find no receipt for Ramsey repairs of .50 hence do not give you credit for it -
You made a mistake in your additions of $1.00 - Yours truly: E. C. Means Agent

April 9th 8

Statement of Rents

Due from T. A. Hyne Feb 28 $65.22
Rent Mar & April 30.00
95.22
Credit April 16 21.80
Balance due April 30 ng 8 $73.42

Due from Anderson Feb 16 $3.50 How is
Rent Mar & April 8.00 this?
Balance due April 16 ng 8 $11.50

Due from Ramsey Feby 28 $8.00
Rent Mar & April 10.00
18.00
Credit 8.00
Balance due April 30 ng 8 $10.00

Due from Bowers Jan 22 5.00 What is
Feb 22 5.00 the matter
Mar & April 22 10.00 with this a/c
$20.00

J. Wright Due April 28 - (How much) $8-?

Please explain Mr. Worrall account

Please collect to May 1st and send
me statement showing how each house is occupied

April 16th 98

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Enclosed herewith please find proxy for Norton Iron Works annual meeting of stockholders and for Means, Kyle & Co meeting. The latter company has recently paid a dividend of 3½% to its stockholders. This was done last week while the writer was away and I did not learn whether it had been earned.

Gay Putnam & I had a very pleasant trip to Birmingham where we met John H & Robt Preston Means, their mother & the wife of Preston. All nice people. We saw a number of furnaces, coal washers etc. The object of our trip was to see the washing & coking of their coal. We expect to make considerable improvements here with the object of making coke from the coal in lands bought by this company from the Means & Russell Iron Co.

The Ohio River is down to normal stage again. Ruby has about finished house cleaning and has started work in the garden. All are well. Am sorry John Russell has typhoid fever but Dr Wade says case is not

#2

dangerous. A nurse from Cinti is with him so he will have good attention - This is the fourth case on our street and we believe the trouble is from the city water. Probably owing to small amount used from the mains they are not properly flushed - We are careful to use filtered water as much as possible at our home -

While I do not anticipate that New York will be in danger of bombardment during the coming war with Spain, it is a possibility and if you get nervous over the situation at any time, come out here. Your room is papered and fixed up for a guest and we will be pleased to have you with us -

We are all well and send much love -

Your affectionate nephew

E. C. Evans.

P.S. I am much obliged for kindness in making the purchase for the Supt. Ingalls wedding gift and will prefer to send you check now - E.C.E.
What is the amount?

April 18th 95

E. B. Willard Esq Pres
Hanging Rock O

Dear Sir!

Herewith I return letter of Mr Frye mailed me 5th inst.

I was away from home at the time it came and did not see it until a few days ago. Have not seen Mr. Adams to talk with him about it and would suggest that the whole matter lie over until our annual meeting— Father & Mr. A. have both read the letter and can then give their opinions after looking over the ground—

I would for myself prefer to look into the matter of getting a dumping ground up the river from the furnace before deciding whether we should attempt to purchase the sections you refer to— It would aid me in forming an opinion as to the value of that below the furnace to the company—

Yours truly: E. C. Wream

April 21st 98

Thos A Mack Esq
Cincinnati O

Dear Sir:

Yours favor 19th by L. S. Walters Esq enclosing note in favor John Means for $3060 dated April 20th 1898 for 4 months at hand also check in favor above for $60 interest for which I thank you

Enclosed herewith I return note dated Dec 20th 1897 for $3060 @ 4 mos-

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

P. S. Letter from Mr. Mack of New York not here-

April 21st 98

The Cincinnati Street Ry Co
Cincinnati O

Gentlemen:

Enclosed herewith scrip certificate of Stock No 38694 for $216.00 in name of Margaret A. Means—

Kindly make out new Stock certificate in name of Margaret A Means for 4 shares $200.00 16.00 and scrip certificate for balance and mail to Ashland Ky

Yours truly,

E. C. Means

Atty in fact for Margaret A Means

April 22nd 98

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Herewith I enclose draft in your favor for Twenty Dollars in payment of purchase made by you for me— and am thankful for your kindness in the matter—

Father is about as usual but does not go about to any extent. Stays close at home and follows the war news with interest—

Jobe Lampton, I see very seldom, and so far as I know, he is not doing more than to look after his mother's property—

Mrs. O. C. Fischer (Bessie Ringo) & Ruby have entertained at our home the Current Event Club in a very happy way— A number of ladies from Denton were present— Ruby can describe it better as I was not present—

Leaves are coming out on trees and gardens are flourishing— Saw Dora at Law Meet Sunday

With much love

Your affectionate nephew

E. C. Means

April 30th 98

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Repleying to yours 26th
Was surprised to learn of the death of Mrs Nichols as your letter was first information.
Enclosed herewith draft properly endorsed.
Charley & Lizzie are at home, came in unexpectedly to us for a short stay on Lizzies part. They have had several requests for the renting of a portion or all of their home but have declined to allow any one to enter.
John Russell is still very low with fever and especially Tuesday night & Wednesday but is now resting easier.
At the annual meeting of Means Kyle & Co J. M. Culbertson was elected a director instead of his father. The two Sons, Father & I now represent the family. Money was lost last year in the operation of the business.
With much love Your aff. nephew
E. C. Means

May 3rd 98

Mrs. S. J. McChesney
46 West 21st St
New York

My dear Madam:

Enclosed find draft of the Lakeland Natl Bank upon the National City Bank for the sum of One hundred and sixty eight ($168.00) Dollars payable to your order.

This in payment of the rooms board etc of Miss Margaret A. Means from May 3rd to May 31st 1898. Four weeks @ $42.00 per week

Kindly acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours respectfully

E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

May 11th 95

N. B. Smith Esq
Mishawaka Ind
Dear Sir:

Yours of 8th April duly rec'd
It is the purpose of the Law Door Box Co
to run both the L. M. and Covington Trees.
In my last conversation with the Genl Mang,
Mr H.S. Henry, I learned that he had men
in his employment who would look after
the running of both furnaces.
Under the circumstances I do not believe
it worth while to apply to him at this
time for a position such as you name.
Unless it were for the purpose of having
your application on file.
It now looks as if Spain is "out
in it".

With regards.
Yours truly;
E. C. Means

May 11th 95

Frank Lyman Esq
Newyork

Dear Sir:

Yours 9th at hand—
It is Fathers purpose to attend the meeting at Low Moor 20th inst— This will relieve your father from the necessity of being present to insure a quorum— We regret that the situation is as you write and trust that your father may attend later meetings.

If it is your preference to have Mr. Stiles become a member of the Low Moor Board it meets with our hearty approval.

I judge from the intimate acquaintance you have with Mr. Stiles that he would meet promptly any request from you in the event his relations with the company as director and salesman required that he should withdraw from the former—

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

May 11th 8

T. A. Hyne Esq
Covington Ky

Dear Sir:

Yours 9th inst at hand enclosing check for Seventy three 25/100 dollars and receipts as below:

Rents reported collected since April 9th

Ramsey	$5.00	
Forwald	$5.00	
Hyne	$15.00	
" Commission	2.50	$27.50

Credits

Check Hyne	$23.25	
Commission	2.50	
Water Rent 3rd Main	3.50	
McCarty Plumbing	.75	
Ramsey Repairing Pipe	.50	30.50
Balance to Hyne Rent a/c		$ 3.00

You will do well to urge collections as much as possible - June Taxes must be met before long -

Yours truly

E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

May 9th 8

Statement of Rents

Due from S. A. Ryne April 30th		$73.42
Rent to May 31st		15.00
		$88.42
Credits May 9th	$15.00	
	2.50	
	3.00	20.50
Balance due May 31st 98		$67.92
Due from Anderson April 16th		$11.50
Rent to May 16th		8.00
Balance due		$19.50
April 25 Moved out		
Due from Ramsey April 30th		$10.00
Rent May		5.00
		15.00
Credit		5.00
Balance Due May 30th		$10.00
Due from Voltevald May 16th		$5.00
Due from W. Wright May 25th		
two months rent @ $8		$16

So that what Wright pays.

May 24th 95

Robt Preston Means Esq
Birmingham Ala
Dear Sir:

Yours 18th recd while one were at Low Moor.

Last night I presented the matter of taking stock in your company to Father but I find he is disposed not to invest any further in the iron business. On my own account I am not in funds to consider any new investment. Under the circumstances I do not believe I can aid you in securing additional capital.

Regarding the Electric plant would state that we have compressed haulage in our mines and could not use the electric plant. Have just closed contract for an additional air motor. It is the finest haulage in mines where the grades will permit its use that we have ever seen.

Am awaiting word from Pittsburgh concerning washer patents. Trusting your cough is better & with regards.

Yours truly; E. C. Means

May 31st 95

Mrs. S. J. McChesney
46 West 21st Street
New York

My dear Madam:

Enclosed you will please find draft of the Ashland Natl Bank upon the National City Bank for the sum of Two hundred and ten ($210.00) Dollars payable to your order.

This in payment of the rooms, board etc of Miss Margaret A. Means from May 31st to July 5th 1895 Five weeks @ $42.00 per week

Kindly acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours respectfully

E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

June 3rd 8

Phoenix Mutual Life Insurance Co
Hartford Conn

Gentlemen:

Today I have sent check for $132.95 in payment premium less rebate on Policy No 140.896 to Robt N. Freyer Genl Agt Cincinnati in accordance with notice from him -

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

June 3rd 8

Robt N. Freyer Esq
Genl Agent Phoenix Mutual Life Ins Co
Cincinnati O

Dear Sir:

Herewith my check Ashland Nat Bank for $132 95/100 in payment premium on Policy #140.896 Phoenix Mutual Life Insurance Company due June 12th -

Yours truly: E. C. Means

June 1st 98

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Sat long since Ruby, H.E. & myself walked out to the Fearing property Miss Nellie was there and told of the repairs. She wants one bed room and the kitchen papered, the roof painted and the fence overhauled.

I will send men from our R.R. shops to do the work as I believe better results will be obtained than by letting the work by contract.

Tom Adams has gone to Beaver Falls, Penn where he has bought a half interest in an Ice Plant. He expects to visit Mat Newton before returning.

His Father has been about town for a month but so far as I can learn Tom has nothing to say to him.

All three furnaces here are running. The nail mill is idle and will be all summer probably. Work is progressing on the new Rod mill. Hamilton Furnace after being out 2 months for repairs will resume work about the 10th inst. The Clinton Fire Brick Works has bought an interest

M. A. M. #2

in same clay lands below town known as the German Co's lands—

Father bought back the Academy property, where Judge Savage lives, at commissioners sale. It was sold to bring the balance due him on the purchase by the Improvement Co.

The D. D. Geiger lands belonging to the same Co were sold to satisfy the debt owing on them and Father & the Ash Nat Bank became purchasers as they had loaned Mr Geiger money on the note.

We are about to begin work on the coal washing plant and the coke ovens to be located below the Furnaces on the river bank— It will keep me busy pretty much all summer.

We are also making improvements at the mines and on the lands purchased from the Means & Russell Iron Co in anticipation of increased coal business.

Charley is still here and expects Will Seaton to go to Asheville with him for a visit.

With much love. Your affectionate nephew
E. C. Means

June 6th 5

F. C. Tomlinson Esq Cash
Boston

Dear Sir:

Kindly advise me concerning the proposed reduction of the capital stock of the 2nd Nat'l. Is the capital impaired? If so to what extent? and the amount of reduction proposed?

Yours etc E. C. Mears

June 15 98

H. L. Merry Esq
Lawrenceburg Va

Dear Harry:

Mr. J. D. Dale Pres't of the Argand Refining Co was here yesterday and informed me that he had received an offer of $40 per share for the Argand stock by a party who was willing to make the investment on an annuity basis. He said he wished to accept the offer for himself and that a number of stockholders would do the same but he wished all to have the opportunity before he sold out.

We have talked it over here and figured out that it means, with our dividends received since we purchased the stock, that we will get out whole with only the loss of interest for the two & one half years we have held the stock. We would get the July dividend of 1½ %.

We are inclined to accept the proposition and get rid of the whole business.

#2

Present the matter to Mr. Cargill and let me know your preferences.

We have heard nothing more from the Standard oil Co about a proposition.

While this proposition of Mr Dale may not yield more than waiting and getting the yearly rental and getting it out at interest, it does remove the possible loss with new people in charge of the Argand Co who might vote themselves salaries or incur indebtedness so that the full rental might not reach the stockholders.

I might add that as soon as we hear from you & Cargill we will advise Mr Dale how many shares can be sold from here.

The blue print of furnace lines at hand for which I thanks you.

With regards to all

Yours truly:

E. C. Means

June 15th 8

F. A. Hyne Esq Agent
Covington Ky
Dear Sir:

Yours 13th inst at hand enclosing check for Ten Dollars ($10.00) and receipts as below:

Rents reported collected since May 9th

Vanvald	$5.00		
Jas. Ramsey	7.00		
J. W. Wright	16.00		
F. A. Hyne	20.00	$48.00	
" Commission		4.80	$52.80

Credits—

Check Hyne	$10.00	
Commission	4.80	
Taxes	35.00	
L. Conners - Whitewashing	2.00	
T. Conley - Pumping Cellar	1.00	$52.80

If you can get the Anderson rent do so—

Yours truly;

E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

June 15th 98

Statement of Rents-

Due from Hyne May 31st 1898		$ 67.92
Credit June 15th	24.80	
	43.12	
June Rent due 30th	15.00	
Balance due June 30th 1898		$58.12
Due Anderson Rent to April 25th		$13.50
or until June 16th		27.50
Due from Ramsey May 30th		$10.00
Credit June 15th	7.00	
	8.00	
Rent June	5.00	
Balance Due June 30th '98		$ 8.00
Due from Rosvald June 16th		$5.00
Due from Wright June 25th		$8.00

moved out 1st

Can you get tenants for places not occupied?

June 18th 98

T. D. Dale Esq
Marietta O

Dear Sir:

In reference to your offer to secure a purchaser for Argand Refining Co Stock I beg to advise that Messrs Douglas & D.G. Putnam, Jos S Matheuson, H.M. Merry, S.G. Cargill John Means & myself are desirous of disposing of our entire holdings at the consideration suggested viz. $40.00 per share and the July dividend of $1.50 per share and the extra dividend from accounts collected which you thought would be made at the same time.

Kindly advise how soon you can take this stock and whether we shall draw upon you with certificates attached to drafts? And for what total amount per share?

Yours truly,
E. C. Means

June 21st. 1898

Mr. H. G. Merry,

Low Moor, Va.

Dear Sir:-

I inclose here-with copy of letter received this day from Mr. T. D. Dale, Prest. Argand Refining Co.

I would like very much to see you and Mr. Lyman, but at this writing, am unable to say whether I will get over to Low Moor, Sunday, or not, as I am very busy just now.

Yours truly:-

E. C. Means

P.S. Acting under Mr Dale's letter I presume it will be proper for you & Mr Cargill to draw direct on Mr Dale at Marietta, O through the Covington Va bank—

June 22 98

T. D. Dale Esq
Marietta O
Dear Sir:

Your wire today at hand
The several parties accepting your
proposition will draw upon you
separately. This for convenience in banking
and to accommodate our Mass people.
My draft goes to bank today for $800.00
John Means will follow tomorrow - $2000.00
As per your letter 20th inst we will
expect to receive dividends July 1st of
not less than 3%.

Thanking you for your kindness
Yours truly!
E. C. Means

June 22nd 98

L. F. Watters Esq
Atty for Thos A. Slack
Cincinnati O

Dear Sir:

Yours 20th inst duly at hand enclosing new note for 6 mos dated June 20th for $626.75 and check for $7.65 interest. All acct Thos A. Slack to John Means Herewith old note returned

Yours truly:
E. C. Means
for John Means

June 27th 98

Frank Lyman Esq Treas
Newyork

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith certif of Stock in name Baylis & Co signed as requested which I trust will reach you safely-

Have been busy lately with new work of Coal Washer & coke ovens and Rod mill. We now have about all the contracts let-

Was sorry could not get over to Lawrence Saturday but was tied up here-

With regards

Yours truly:

E. C. Means

Lawrence Telephone Co
Ashland
Ky

June 27 98

Gentlemen:

Enclosed herewith my check for ~~Five~~ Five Hundred ($500.00) Dollars as a subscription to the new issue of Stock. Kindly make certificate in my name

Yours truly

E. C. Means

June 27th 98

Dear Aunt Margaret:

The Fearing house has had its roof painted and two rooms papered. The fence I will not have repaired until I have a survey made of the land so as to locate the fence upon the line. It is now on a bluff bank which is washing away and it will be best to get the fence as near the road as possible.

While I have never been able to get a full understanding of the Lampton situation, it does appear as if all the money they have received from you, Mr. Linton & Father should put them in a position where the rents from their property should more than pay taxes & repairs.

Jake has applied to me for a situation but at present we have no opening where we can use him. I suggested to him to apply at the Rod Mill and perhaps Mr Kelly could give him something to do.

M. L. M #2

Regarding the Academy Property it amounts to this that Father received $10.000= as one half purchase price in 1890 and he now gets the property back for the balance due.

The Coke ovens are to be built by this Company and if necessary a dividend or two will be omitted to pay for them but if possible our stocks of iron, ore etc will be reduced and the money which would be tied up in them will be used in the ovens etc

We have been experimenting for some time, about two years, off and on and as a result believe we can make our own coke at a satisfactory cost instead of buying it.

Will Seaton has returned from Asheville Ruby & H. E. go early in July for two weeks.

There is a circus in town today but we have not patronized it.

Have your any particular investment you would like to make? Some funds on hand.

With much love to all. Your affectionate nephew!

E. C. Means

June 28 95

L. T. Walters Esq
Cincinnati

Dear Sir:

Replying to yours 27th inst would state that Father received a letter from Mr. Mack informing him that he could not pay his note due 20th inst and would have to renew it.

I expect to be in Cincinnati Sunday and will call at your office.

Yours truly:

E. C. Means Supt

July 2nd 98

Mrs. S. J. McChesney
146 West 21st Street
New York

My dear Madam;

Enclosed you will please find draft of the Ashland State Bank upon the National City Bank for the sum of One hundred and sixty eight ($168.00) Dollars payable to your order.

This in payment of the rooms, board etc of Miss Margaret A. Means from July 5th to Aug 2nd 98 — Four weeks @ $42.00 per week

Kindly acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours respectfully:

E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

P.S. I enclose receipt for signature as usual

July 2nd. 1898

Mr. Frank Lyman, Treas.
#31 Burling Slip.
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir:-

I am in receipt of your favor of June 30th. inclosing certificates of stock No. 183, 184, 185, 186 and 187, which I have signed and forwarded by registered mail to Mrs. Susan L. Winslow, as requested.

Yours truly:-

E. C. Means

P.S. Yours 29th ult. duly received - Will endeavor to spend one Sunday with you at Low Moor while you are there this month -

July 9th 98

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Yours 29th ult which appears to have been mailed 7th inst is at hand.

Herewith I enclose as your request a NewYork draft for One thousand ($1000.00) Dollars.

Miss McChesney's rent was sent last week and I have her receipt for same. Paid to Aug 2nd

I see that NewYork Central was up to 118 yesterday and suppose that Sam Spalding can now dispose of same at that price. It has taken six months to reach that figure.

I have a circular from Boston 3rd Natl Bank offering City of Boston 3½% Registered bonds at a price which will net about 3.70% as an investment. I believe it will be a good investment for you. You have as much Government bonds in proportion to your estate as I believe you should have and believe it better to add in other lines. If it meets with your approval I shall purchase $5.000 of the Boston bonds — for your account.

M.A.M #2

Ruby & H.E. are now in Asheville enjoying their visit. I am keeping house while they are away with both girls at home to look after my welfare - Mary is very lonesome without H.E. but yesterday Ella Tinney(?) came out with Bessie Fischer's baby and spent the day - She accepted place as nurse and will have full charge while Bessie takes a trip.

Tom Adams I think is still at Beaver Falls and has not been to Boston yet -

The 2nd Natl at Ironton voted to reduce its capital stock 50% rather than to assess the stockholders - They have some 'slow' accounts and bad loans which caused the move - I believe the new management will improve matters and believe they have done wisely so far.

With much love -

Your affectionate nephew:

E. Cr Means

July 11th 95

Mr Geo R. Ebersole
Mang Standard Oil Co
Cincinnati O

Dear Sir:

Replying to yours 9th inst. relative to manager for agency here & at Cattle. As you wrote nothing about compensation and I am not familiar with duties of your mang. cannot say whether a recent applicant for a situation would suit you.

I refer to Mr. A. C. Campbell of this place former cashier of the Ashland Natl Bank and later of the Cattlettsburg Natl Bank. Mr. Campbell as you may be aware has built a large hotel here and involved his property by over building while laboring under the impression of Ashland's greatness. Mr Campbell appears eager to get employment and I have no doubt would make an honest and faithful employee.

Of my relatives there are none at present available that I could recommend for the place.

Yours truly E. C. Means

July 13th 98

H. G. Merry Esq. Gen Manag
Low Moor Va

Dear Sir:

Your letter 12th inst at hand & noted. I regret to learn of the serious trouble with Fee B. While I do not feel capable of offering much advice from this distance without seeing the furnace, I feel that, if after shoveling out the furnace you find the fire brick lining in good condition, it should be possible to bolt on additional sheets and bands and resume operations. The list of 5 inches towards the stoves would not be serious if from the foundations, as Hamilton Fee has a list of 15 inches from a settlement of foundation, and if sheets of shell are again made continuous and double riveted where possible no danger could be apprehended from the list.

If any new shells were to be purchased, for instance for A Fee, I believe we should have much heavier ones than heretofore.

H.G.M. #2

At present I doubt being able to get away Friday but you may expect me Sat. night on N.Z. if you hear nothing more from me—
With regards to yourself & family and to Mr. Lyman

Yours truly,
E. C. Means

July 15th 98

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Yours 13th met at hand-
Regarding the New York Central Stock proceeds
when sold I would advise the purchase
of a guaranteed RR stock like the Morris &
Essex R R Co or the N. Y. Lackawanna & Western Ry.
Say $2000= par value of either - Mr Spalding
can advise me of the difference required and
I will send check to him for it -
A good registered bond like the 3½% New
York Central, loaned to take up the Lake Shore
stock would also be a good investment -
Ruby & H. E are enjoying their Asheville
visit although rain has prevented their
driving about as much as they would like -
I am going to Lawrence for Sunday and
have some hopes of Father going with me -
With much love
Your affectionate nephew:
E. C. Deane

July 15th 98

Third Natl Bank
Boston Mass

Gentlemen:

Yours recent circular offering City of Boston 3½% Registered Bonds Rapid Transit Loan at Land at 107 and interest

I would like to purchase of these par value $5,000 in name of Miss Margaret A. Means, Ashland Kentucky.

If you will kindly advise me whether you will be able to accept the offer and amount required I will send you New York draft for same.

Yours truly:

E. C. Means

Attorney for Margaret A. Means

July 21st 95

S.S. Spalding Esq
New York

My dear Sam:

Yours 19th inst at hand with statement of sale New York Central Ry Stock for a/c Miss Margaret A. Means.
I wrote to her 13th inst that I would advise the purchase of a first class guaranteed stock like the Morris & Essex, New York & Harlem, or the New York, Lackawanna & West.n
Or a good registered bond like the 3½% New York Central. I always try to make her investments as safe as possible even though the income is small. She has all the Government bonds we would advise in proportion to her total estate.
I can send your check if the amount at hand is not sufficient to cover purchase.
With regards.

Yours truly:
E. C. Means for
M. A. Means

July 21st 98

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Enclosed herewith letter from Cashier of 3d Natl Bank of Boston Mass in which he states that he has sold the Bonds I wanted to purchase for you. So we will have to look elsewhere for an investment.

Sam Spalding writes that he has sold the New York Central Stock receiving net $ 2.364.60 for the 20 shares — and holds the amount to your credit awaiting investment.

I shall write to him about as I did you regarding a reinvestment of the funds.

Ruby & H.E. are still away and I expect them to return next week. Father is at Low Moor where I left him Monday with Mr Lyman

With love

Your affectionate nephew

E. C. Mears

July 30th 98

E. B. Willard Esq Pres
Hanging Rock O
Dear Sir:

Your report for 6 weeks ending 23d inst at hand in due time.
I notice that the total cost of ore, cinder & scale per ton of iron was $4.16 - for the 6 weeks ending Dec 4th 1897 same was $3.506 - " " " " " " Sept 26th 1896 " " 3.760 - Here in the latter cases to the use of more mill cinder I suppose -

I would therefore suggest that you increase the amount of mill cinder and take ore in your mixture and decrease the native ore and see the result after 6 weeks -

C. B. Richards of M. A. Hanna & Co, Cleveland has named to me Mr W. H. Putnam some low prices on "Dunn" ore - and I would advise you to correspond with him - Richards -

Trusting that the furnace is in good condition

Yours truly;
E. C. Means

Aug 1st 98

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Today I am sending Mrs McChesney a check for your rooms & board in full to Aug 30th 1898. I notice that last year when making the Sept remittance I deducted $70.00 as a summer allowance. Shall I do the same this year.

Ruby has written you about her Asheville trip so I will not undertake it.

Father is still at home but will probably go East in two weeks to the Lawyers meeting. I have written Sam Spalding to purchase the N. Y. Cent. Lake Shore 3½% bonds.

Tom Adams was here a few days last week and returned to Beaver Falls. Pa. He says business is very good there - in ice. Bob Richardson is managing the factory here, while Tom is away.

With much love

Your affectionate nephew:

E. C. Adams

Aug 2nd 98

Mrs. S. J. McChesney
#46 West 21st Street
Newyork

My dear Madam:

Enclosed you will please find draft of the Ashland Natl Bank upon the National City Bank for the sum of One hundred and sixty eight ($168.-) Dollars payable to your order.

This is payment of the rooms, board etc of Miss Margaret A. Means from Aug 2nd to Aug 30th 98 Four weeks @ $42.- per week.

Kindly acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours respectfully:

E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means.

July 1st 98

S. A. Spalding Esq
New York

Reply to 30 Exch

Dear Sir:

As I considered any of the checks and bonds named in yours 20th ult as good for investment I intended in mine 21st to leave choice with you.

However after due consideration I prefer the Lake Shore collat. g. 3½ % bonds due 1998 and shall be pleased to have you purchase $2000 - par value of same - getting, if there be, the registered bonds - and having the interest payable to Margaret A. Means, Ashland Kentucky - The checks to be indorsed by her or myself as Attorneys -

With regards

Yours truly;

E. C. Means

Aug 6th 95

F. A. Hynes Esq Agent
Covington Ky

Dear Sir:

Yours of 5th inst at hand enclosing check for $35.75 and receipts as below:

Rents reported collected since June 15th

Mr. Norwalk	$10.00		
" J. P. Mighto	5.00		
" " Williams	4.25		
" F. A. Hynes	20.00	$39.25	
" Commission	3.92	$42.17	

Credits:

Check Hynes	$35.75	
Commission "	3.92	39.67
Thos McCarty repairing hydrant at #169 West 3rd Street	1.00	
Water Rental 300 Main St	2.50	$43.17

Speak Ramsey for his rental. What is the reason he does not pay

Yours truly:

E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Aug 6th 98

Statement of Rents

Due from Hyne June 30th 1898	$58.12
" " " July rent	15.00
	73.12
Credit Aug 4th 1898	23.92
Balance due July 31st 1898	49.20
Due from Ramsey June 30th 1898	$8.00
" " " July rent	5.00
Balance due July 31st 1898	13.00
Due from Forwald Aug 16th 1898	$15.00
Credit Aug 4th	10.00
Balance due Aug 16th 1898	5.00
Due from Wright June 25th 1898	$8.00
" " July 25	$8.00
	16.00
Credit Aug 4th	8.00
Balance due July 25th 98	8.00
Due from J. P. Williams Aug 11th 98	$1.25

rent at $1.25 per week - upstairs 300 Main St

If Forwald's rent is $1.25 per week he will owe $5.00 Aug 12th instead of 16th

Get after Wright & Ramsey —

Aug 11th 98

S. S. Spalding Esq
New York

Dear Sir:

Yours 8th inst at hand.
Found enclosed your check for $451.00 balance due Miss Margaret A. Means on account sale 20 shares New York C.R.R. Stock and purchase of Bonds #M 2134 and #M 2135 of the New York C & H.R.R Lake Shore Collat 3½%. As per your statement.
Also found enclosed the above two registered bonds I extend to you the thanks of Aunt Margaret & myself for your kindness and attention in this matter.

It is quite a problem to invest her funds so that there shall be a variety of interests and a constant and sure income of reasonable amount. Especially when she has very seldom any preferences. And at this distance from the market.

With kindest regards

Yours truly: E. C. Means Attyn fact
for Margaret A. Means

Aug 11th 95

Frank L. Lyman Esq
New York

My dear Mr. Lyman:

Replying to yours 8th inst.
The Rich Patch papers are now at Father's home and I will bring them with me next week.
We are pleased to learn of good work again at Deer Moor but as yet have learned nothing of conditions found at Covington after blowing out. although a request for same was made to Berry.
Are pleased to know that your father will be present at the meeting and I trust he is in good health.
We are blowing out Dec 81 for repairs after a 3 years campaign. and will reline at once.
Ohio River is almost up to flood stage after the almost constant daily rains.
C&O #3 train was 16 hours late last night on account of land slide near Fayette
With regards. Yours truly:

E. C. Means

Aug 12th 98

Dear Aunt Lampton:

Your note of yesterday at hand. While I regret very much that your lots are to be sold for less than you believe them to be worth, I am not in funds to make a loan and cannot be of assistance to you in the matter.

Today, stock in the Ky Iron Coal & Manfg Co (The Old Land Co) which as late as 1891 sold at 100% only brought 26% or one fourth of its former market value. Under the circumstances one must believe that there has been a great depreciation in the values of Ashland real estate.

I am pleased to learn that you feel improved in health as a result of your Eastern trip.

Your aff nephew

E. C. Jerome

Aug 13th 98

Dear Aunt Margaret:

The NewYork Central RR bonds have arrived. Sam Spalding had them registered in your name, same as Government bonds. The interest will be paid semi-annually 1st Feb & 1st Aug - by check. I have written to Sam and thanked him, for you & myself, for his kindness and trouble undergone -

I am in doubt as to whether to make additional investments now or wait until the campaign for fall elections in hopes of lower prices then - Will wait at any rate until after our Newyork trip next week, where I may be able to get the opinion of others -

In regard to Slough Lampton and possible benefits to his health by a trip and medical advice. I cannot express an opinion because I do not know much about his present condition as compared with his past, but I doubt whether he would improve more away from home than at home. His mother said he had "nervous prostration.

#2

My understanding of Mr Linton's annuity to Aunt Hampton, was that he made it voluntarily, without any conditions as to others giving. It may be that later on account of additional requests to save property from sale, that he suggested getting help from others and that he was only giving on condition others gave. This only surmise on my part. Aunt is trying so hard to shift debts due others and get debts due to relatives instead that I have lost patience with her methods which I consider ill advised. In one case, in particular, where Mr. Linton paid off a mortgage and released the property. The same property was promptly mortgaged again, sold to pay the new debt and now Aunt is endeavoring to redeem it and after some unsuccessful efforts with Mr Linton, Spearing has written to Harry and then to me to get a loan of $2000. We both declined. But enough of the above I believe you fully understand the situation anyhow.

13

We are having a full stage of water for boats from Cinti to Pitts as a result of the almost daily rains - A great deal of growing corn will be lost in the Scioto Valley from the over flow there -

Yesterday Ruby, H. E. & Ned (the little), Mrs Ringo Buckner, Mary, Annie & I ate supper at Clyffside Park - At least 6 other picnic parties were there. Bess Seaton left Thursday for Waukesha -

Father, Aunt Mary & I leave next Monday for New York - He rather favors a visit to Ocean Grove but is not decided - While I am considering a return home by the Old Dominion Line and Old Point - Owing to improvements being made here under my direction, my time will be limited to one week

With regards to Miss Lida Moore and with much love to yourself

Your affectionate nephew

E. C. Breaux

August 24th. 1898

Mr. L. F. Walters,
% Thos. A. Mack,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Sir:-

Yours of August 18th. inclosing check for $60.00 and new Note in favor John Means for $3060.00 dated 20th. inst, came duly to hand while the writer was in New York. I have placed check to Fathers credit in Bank.

Inclosed find old Note April 20th. 1898, as requested.

As usual, have heard nothing from Mr. Mack. Good thing he has such a man as you with him. With regards.

Yours truly:-

E. C. Means

May 26th 98

Frank Leyman Esq Treas
New York

My dear Mr. Leyman:

Yours 24th inst & enclosure duly received —

Mr + Mrs Merry + Howard, Messrs Foster, Kitchen + myself were passengers on the Princess Ann to Old Point. Mr. M. was recovering from severe asthma attack which began Wednesday P.M. as I noticed in your office — Foster, Kitchen + I left O.P. Monday P.M. and Mr + Mrs M were to leave Tuesday A.M.

In reference to Covington Fee iron shortage, beg to recall to your memory the former troubles as to grading under the same yard man, Chalkline — Who is undoubtedly incompetent for the position and is not in the same class as Lynch.

How far Merry has entered into the plan to show increased output I cannot ascertain but I believe that when you next visit Virginia you should investigate the details of reporting iron weights to the office — And shorten the route and endeavor to

get direct reports to Cargill from the weigher. If the chemist at Covington is competent to take charge would it not be well to give him a chance to "blow" the furnace next blast and let him feel that the promotion came through you and make him "your man" rather than Merrys. Merrys endeavor to attend to every thing is not successfull and the time has come when he should select with your assistance such foremen as are competent to carry out their work without his supervision of all details. Certainly if I were in his position it would be a welcomed relief to feel that others shared in the responsibility of successful operation of the various departments.

Please have Dalton send me a copy of his closing entries into Profit & Loss a/c for 6 mos ending June 30th I neglected to ask him about them.

Yours truly;

D. C. Means

Aug 26th 98

Wm. N. Franklin Esq
#809 Wyandotte Building
Columbus O

Dear Sir:

Your favor 20th inst came during writers absence in Newyork.

It has always been my opinion that the proceeds from the sales of bonds made by the Ashland Steel Co should be used to build a rod mill and a wire drawing plant. The latter to be designed to draw the full out put of rods but not built in its entirety at present but only so far as funds warrant. In order to secure sufficient working capital it may become necessary for the stockholders of the Steel Co to make further advances. As stockholders in the companies owning the Steel Plant we should endeavor to formulate some plan whereby further competition between the three nail mills shall be removed and the several managers put to working in harmony

So far as the A. C. & L. Ry. Co is concerned, its connection with the Steel Co is governed entirely by its contract, and while it is entirely friendly and a well wisher of prosperity to the Steel Co, it does not promise anything more than its guarantee of the bonds under the contract. To guarantee $50.000 if rod mill alone is built and $10.000 additional if the wire drawing plant is added.

I shall be pleased to learn whether any chance exists in your opinion of consolidating the three rail companies? Such a move I would gladly encourage as far as I can.

With regards.

Yours truly,

E. C. Evans

T. M. Patterson Esq
Portsmouth
O

Aug 20th 98
Ashland Ky

Dear Sir:

In the absence of John Means, my father, I enclose check for Ten Dollars ($10.00) in payment of bill rendered him. I presume the matter was overlooked by him as he is usually very prompt to settle his accounts.

Kindly acknowledge receipt & oblige

Yours truly: E. C. Means

Sept 1st 98

Gazzam Gaur Esq
Cincinnati O

Dear Sir:

For some time I have had in contemplation the purchase of a small amount of stock in The Central Trust and Safe Deposit Co. I have now some cash for investment and would like to purchase $1000.00 par value of the stock to be taken in my own name. Herewith find my check upon the Ashland Natl Bank for One thousand Dollars. Todays paper, "Times-Star", reports asked prices 92½ and bid 90-

Kindly make the purchase and transfer for me and place the balance remaining from check to credit my account in your banking dept.

Yours truly,

[illegible] Means

Sept 3rd 98

Dazzam Coun Esq
Cincinnati O
Dear Sir:

Yours favor 2nd inst at hand for which I thank you.

I shall be pleased if you purchase for me the three (3) shares of stock of The Central Trust & Safe deposit Co @ 97½ to which you refer. and hold the balance of check for additional purchases better.

Thanking you for your kindness
Yours truly:
E. C. Means

Sept 3rd 98

H. G. Merry Esq G. M.
Low Moor Va

Dear Sir:

Received this morning blue print of proposed lining for Fee C.
As I have said before, I do not believe it wise to endeavor to get a large out put from Covington and it now seems to me that it would be better to have a 17'-6" back rather than 18'0" as shown. This would permit of an air space of 3" between the fire brick and red brick, which I believe would preserve your jacket and allow 21" instead of 18" of fire brick at the mantle. At the top of furnace where so much backing is required the red brick could be checkered, thus reducing the weight.
I like the low back 22'0" and believe you will find it an improvement.
The reports from Low Moor & are good reading.
Trusting that you are in good health and with regards to yourself & family. I remain
Yours truly, E. C. Means

Sept 10th 98.

B. H. Burr Esq
Dayton O
Dear Sir:

In line with conversation with you on Wednesday of this week, I have today written to Mr. T. M. Adams and called his attention to the condition of affairs at the Steel Plant, and suggested the possibility of either consolidating the Dayton & Belfont properties as a whole or in part for wire and nail business.

It appears to me, the more I study the matter, that a consolidation as a whole is preferable, if either is attempted.

I trust you will keep the matter in mind and get the views of your people upon it.

Now is the time to make an effort to put the Belfont & Dayton in that position where "in unity there is strength."

Yours truly,
E. C. Means

Sept 10th 98

T. M. Adams Esq
Beaver Falls. Pa

Dear Tom:

At the recent meeting of the directors of the Ashland Steel Co it was developed that the extra cost of boilers, foundations, water works, cranes, payment on Courtney property, extra rolls etc required above the estimate made by the Garret-Cromwell Engineering Company would make the total cost of rod mill about $225,000-

The cost of a wire drawing mill to draw 100 tons of wire in 24 hours if built at the Steel Plant will cost about $50.000-

It is needless to state that the Belfont & Norton Directors are greatly disappointed that the funds provided will not erect both mills The Kelly people appear to have grasped the situation sooner than the others, probably on account of inside information, and have contracted for a wire drawing plant and wire nail machines-

#2

The Belfont people feel very sore because the Kelly mill is putting in a wire drawing plant and I believe would entertain a proposition for a joint mill with the Ironton Works.

It now occurs to me that with your large interest in the Ironton you might at this time consider two possible consolidations either to consolide the rail interests or the entire companies of the Belfont & Ironton.

I have suggested to Mr. Ralf Peebles that if the Peebles interest and yours interest would work togather that either of the above might be accomplished. While he made no positive expression I believe he looks favorably upon the matter. Both he & Mr. Burr says that the Ironton & Belfont should work togather hereafter in Steel Plant matters.

If you feel inclined to see what terms of consolidation could be obtained and would favor some equitable arrangement I should be pleased to aid you to bring it about.

#3

You, I believe, are a stockholder in the Belfont Co and know about the value of the plant & business of the Co and its relative value to the Ironton Works. I have talked with Mr. Franklin about a consolidation of the three nail companies but he does not appear favorable. With the Belfont & Ironton as a unit in Steel Plant matters we could prevent any favoritism to the Kelly interests—

Let me hear from you soon before the Belfont people have time to decide to put in a wire drawing plant of their own.

We are all well here — Bess is in Waukesha looking after Rose & baby boy, of whose arrival I presume you have heard—

Yours truly;

E. C. Means

P. S. Since writing above — I have had a talk with Gay Putnam and he is anxious to submit to Mr. Bailey the possibility of such a combination as above suggested, and to urge upon Mr. Bailey the advisability of the A. C. & I acquiring

+4

a control or all of the Norton Works- Under the circumstances I believe if you are favorable to either consolidation we could talk with both Belfont & A.C.&I. people and get a better arrangement with one or the other than if we had only one to deal with-

As a starter how would it do to (1) propose to the Belfont that they should cut their capital one half and consolidate on equal terms with Norton $375.000 (?) and $311.000 ? (2) And for the A.C.&I. that they should issue additional stock say par for par with Norton-

I believe (2) to be better arrangement than (1) but I leave it to you whether you care to do any thing at present. The circumstances are such just at present that I believed I ought to call your attention to matter-

Trusting your ice business is good-

Yours truly

I.C.M.

Sept 12th 98

Mrs. S. J. McCheaney
146 West 21st St. Newyork

My dear Madam:

Enclosed please find draft of the Maryland State Bank upon the National City Bank for the sum of One Hundred & Forty ($140.00) Dollars payable to your order - In payment of rooms & board of Miss Margaret A. Means from August 30th to October 4th 1898

Five weeks @ $42.00 per week	$210.00
Less Summer rebate of	70.00
Balance	$140.00

Kindly acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours respectfully,

E. C. Means

Agent for Margaret A. Means

Sept 12th 98

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Yours 8th inst at hand—

Herewith I send you Two drafts on National City Bank of New York for Two hundred ($200) Dollars each in care "The Greylock" Williamstown, Mass as you request. Which I trust will reach you safely—

Since last writing I have ordered for you $3000.00 additional bonds of the New York Central Ry of the same kind as bought by Mr. S.S. Spalding Making in all $5.000— The market is still very high for First Class securities but there is some tendency toward lower prices—

Locally there is little to write about— The Citizens Telephone Co, of which Mr B Seaton is Pres, has succeeded in running its competitor out of Boyd County and Will is trying to do the same at Ironton with his Lawrence Telephone Co—

Harry has gone to the Methodist Conference at Maysville. He has been elected a member of the church's Educational board for this state.

#2

Bessie Seaton is expected home today from Waukesha— Tom Adams is still at Beaver Falls, so far as we have heard. He reports his investment there as promising profit. The steamboats are still running to Pomeroy so the low water season will be short, if at all this year—

The furnace at Hanging Rock is running but not doing good work. They appear to fail to grasp modern methods— Unless some improvement is made it will be useless to continue running the furnace on present low prices for iron.

Father & Aunt Mary are still East—

With regards to Miss Lida and love for yourself

Your affectionate nephew
E. C. Means

P.S. I have deducted $70 from the amount due Mrs. McChesney from Aug 30th to Oct 4th '98. this is in accord with your suggestion—

Sept 13th 95

Gazzam Gano Esq
Cincinnati O

Dear Sir:

Yours favor 12th inst at hand enclosing Certif. #739 for 5 shares stock The Central Trust & Safe Deposit Co for which I thank you. I note that this was purchased @ 97½ and that there is remaining $707.50 to my credit.

Also note that you have for sale 5 shares Portsmouth Natl Bank Stock @ 85. I would not want to purchase same but will inform Mr. Robt Peebles who is better acquainted there.

Again thanking you for your kindness in making the purchase of stock for me

Yours truly

A. C. McLean

Sept 13th 98

Frank Lyman Esq Treas
Newyork

My dear Mr. Lyman:

Mr. Dalton's copy of entries rec'd. also your favor 6th inst.

Am in receipt of report week ending 10th inst showing out put of 1331 tons iron. A large out put considering yield of ore was but 43% As burden was heavy, I am curious to know, whether the low grades were due to that cause or to the fast driving.

Mr. Merry sent me blue print of proposed lining for Covington Furnace. I made the suggestion that lines be changed some what, to allow of more brick work about the mantle and a space between the fire brick & red brick above the mantle. At the same time keeping the bosh lower than previous linings. I would not hesitate to make the bosh 17½ ft with the increased cubic contents of hearth and 22 feet height of bosh.

F. L. #2

Regarding your queries about Merry - Of course I do not believe him to be the only person that can successfully operate the Law Moor properties - Nor do I believe that it will be an easy matter to get a manager, who can entirely satisfy us and undertake to look after as much detail as we permit Merry to do.

At the same time, I believe that your views should govern the Law Moor business, and that no matter who the manager may be, that, he should recognize your authority, as his superior, and cheerfully, and faithfully carry out your requests to him - When he declines so to do, the time for parting has come, and the matter should be brought before the directors or the executive committee.

In the Covington Furnace matter, Merry at one time asked us both whether he should get an additional Furnaceman or continue McElwain in charge - We suggested the latter course

#3

which he followed. If now you would propose, owing to the careless way in which the iron yard has been handled, that there be selected subject to your approval, a competent man to take full charge at Covington Furnace, Merry would not be apt to take offense. And if he should take offense, your insistence would bring the matter to a focus.

As you know, I have long urged the separation of the clerical and operating departments, but in this you & Father have not agreed with me. As I understand it, for fear Merry would resent it. It will be the same with a new manager, he will want all the authority of his predecessor & until he finds he cannot have it, the same troubles will occur.

You should govern and there is no better time to begin than the present time. Let come what may.

Yours truly,

E. C. Means

Sept 19th 98

B. C. Howell Esq
Cranford, N. J.
Dear Sir:

Herewith I enclose reply to yours 15th inst
As stated to you I believe that now is the time to get these several companies into one. I cannot give you full details because I am not at liberty or authorized to answer for the different share holders of the several co's.

When here you made inquiries about a consolidation of the Electric Light Co with the Street Ry Co. Have your parties taken sufficient interest in the matter to propose a plan for such a consolidation?

Yours truly;
E. C. Means Supt

Sept 23rd 98

F. A. Hyne Esq Agent
Covington, Ky

Dear Sir:

Yours 17th inst duly received but my absence from home has delayed reply
Found enclosed check for $35.75 and receipts $2.05
You report rents collected since Aug 4th as follows

Ramsey	$1.00	
J.P. Williams	5.00	
" Wrights	16.00	
F.A. Hyne	20.00	$42.00.

Credits

Check Hyne	$35.75	
Commission "	4.20	
Cistern Repairs "	.75	
Notice to Ramsey "	.50	
Lumber from Humbert	.80	$42.00.

Yours truly;
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Statement of Rents — Sept 17th 1898

Due from Lynes July 31st 98 - $49.00
Aug & Sept rent 30.00 79.00
Less credit Sept 17th 20.00
Balance due Sept 30th 1898 — 59.00

Due from Ramsey Aug 31st 98 $ 18.00
Credit 1.00
Moved out Sept 10th leaving balance $ 17.00 + 2.50 = $19.50

Due from Forwald Aug 16th 1898 $5.00
You write that he moved out owing $3.00. Please explain.

Due from Wright July 25th 1898 $8.00
Aug & Sept rent 16.00 $24.00
Less credit Sept 17th 16.00
Balance due Sept 25th 1898 — 8.00

George Rice rents second floor 302 Main St
@ $15.00 per month beginning Aug 25th 1898 Rent
payable last of each month —

Due from J.P. Williams - up 30 - Sept 8th $6.25
Credit 5.00
Due Sept 8th 98 - 1.25

Sept 23rd 98

B. C. Howell Esq
Cranford N. J.

Dear Sir:

Yours favor 21st inst at hand. Since writing to you about the valuations of the plants here, in which I stated that I believed the plants of 3 nail companies & steel Co. to be worth about one million dollars as a basis from which to build, I have learned a little more about the value of the plants at Bonton and I now grant to reduce my estimate and place it at not over $800.000. I would like to have you return the statement sent to you so that I can make the alteration. Meantime if possible I will go over the matter more fully and try to learn the real value of the properties. In the first case I assumed too much as the value of the cut-nail machines. I will thank you to permit the correction as I do not want any exaggeration above my signature.

Yours truly! E. C. Means

Sept 29rd 98

B. C. Howell Esq
Crawford N. J.

Dear Sir:

Belfont Furnace is at Ironton O and is the property of the "The Belfont Iron Works Co. I made no mention of the Furnace of Means, Kyle & Co at Hanging Rock, O. known as "Hamilton". The latter Furnace is not connected with either the Iron Railway or the S. C. & I. Ry and is connected with the Norfolk & Western by its own railroad running to its own coal, ore, clay and limestone lands. Means, Kyle & Co own between 20,000 and 22000 acres of land in Lawrence & Scioto counties Ohio.

Since last writing to you I learn that the piping of Natural Gas from Warfield to the towns near here and here is about to begin. The main 10 inch line will cross the Big Sandy River alongside the water mains of the Catlettsburg Water Co reaching Kenova. The gas main coming down the W. Va side of the Big Sandy River.

Yours truly
E. C. Means

Sept 27th 98

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Replying to yours 22nd inst.
Your plan for assisting Aunt Lampton appears to me to meet the situation, and will prevent the money given from going into property, which will not pay interest and hardly pay taxes, from any revenue obtained.

It will be an easy matter for me to arrange with Mr. Foster our store keep to send such supplies as you think best and in amount each month. Also to arrange with Mr. Hyman to supply the coal needed.

I do not believe they will sell any property and would not be surprised if they undertook to buy more.

Rereading your letter I judge you want me to take hold at once and send coal and provisions this I shall do and pay for same with your money. Kindly advise about how much monthly or yearly you want supplied.

With love. Yours affectionately: E. C. Means

Sept 27th 8

A. T. Johnson Esq
Portsmouth O
Dear Sir.

The move to introduce Natural Gas into Portsmouth, Ironton, Ashland & Huntington is fast approaching a head - It may be too late to stop it here in the interest of the Light Co but I trust the Portsmouth Gas Co is alive to the situation and will protect itself through

#2

the Board of Council to prevent competition - I learn that contracts have been made for pipe to bring the Warfield Gas to the Ohio valley and a main is now being put across the Big Sandy River at Catlettsburg - Would it not be well for the Directors of the Ports. Gas & Electric Co to prepare for and prevent in advance and not sleep as we appear to have done?
Respectfully submitted - Yours very truly
E. C. Means

Sept 29th 98

B. C. Harrell Esq
Crawford, N. J.
Dear Sir:

Your favor 26th inst at hand enclosing former letter of 19th inst.

Means, Kyle & Co is capitalized at $450.000- Owns and operates "Hamilton" Furnace at Hanging Rock, O- Owns about 21,000 acres of land in Lawrence and Scioto Counties, Ohio It operates ore mine at Ohio Furnace site and ore, fire clay and coal mines at New Castle about 3 miles from Hanging Rock- and has a standard guage R.R. from New Castle to Hanging Rock. The entire capital stock has been offered for sale at par and I presume could still be obtained at that price- By an extension of not over 2½ miles a connection could be made with the Iron Ry and make the company independent of the Norfolk & Western Ry-

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

Sept 29th 98

B.C. Howell Esq
Crawford N.J.
Dear Sir:

In connection with the Iron, Steel and Railroad interests, if thought advisable, a fire brick plant could be secured at Ashland. The several Iron plants would keep one brick plant in almost continuous operation and Ashland is an excellent point for the manufacture of high grade fire brick at low cost. This would require not to exceed $40.000- and I believe should be considered favorably as an important part of any large iron & steel aggregation-

Yours truly;
E. C. Means

Oct 3rd 98

Mrs. S. J. McChesney
46 West 21st St. New York

My dear Madam:

Enclosed please find draft of the Ashland State Bank upon the National City Bank for the sum of One hundred and sixty eight ($168.00) Dollars payable to your order. In payment of rooms & board of Miss Margaret A. Means from Oct 4th to Nov 1st 1898. Four weeks @ $42.00 per week.

Kindly acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours respectfully

E. E. Means

Agent for Margaret A. Means

Oct 7th 98

J. A. Boone Esq
Fayette W. Va
Dear Sir;

Replying to yours 6th inst.
Our Low Moor Directors will hold a meeting some time next month and if you have a proposition for the sale of your Brown Coal Co property & lease in its entirety, I will take pleasure in submitting same—

No action has been taken, up to this time, towards erecting coke ovens at Covington consequently we are not in the market for coal for that point—

I do not believe a purchase of coal property would be considered by the Low Moor people unless the price was an inducement as coal is selling for very low figures now—

Yours truly;
E. C. Means

Oct 7th 98

H. G. Merry Esq G. M.
Low Moor Va

Dear Sir:

Yours 6th inst at hand-
I regret to learn of the bad luck you are having. Had presumed we were starting in for a nice smooth winter's run-
While you do not state the shortage of ore supply you would anticipate if you were to run both furnaces, I have made a rough estimate that you would require during 5 months Nov 1st to April 1st about 100.000 tons and have in prospect and on hand not to exceed 50.000 tons.
Would you feel safe to start Covington Dec 1st? And trust to picking up ore or mill-cinder to carry you until Spring-
I shall be pleased to see you here if can come out about 16th or any other time if you advise me in advance a few days-
With regards to all-

Yours truly: E. C. Means

Oct 8th 98

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Yours 6th inst at hand- Regarding supplies for Aunt Lampton I have this report to make. I went to see Mr. Hyman about coal and he said that he had just put in some coal for her. So I told him to keep her supplied this winter and you would, through me, pay for the coal-

I went to see Mr. Foster and arranged with him for store supplies on your account. She wrote a note to her stating the arrangement, sent the boy up with the note and had him call for a reply, thinking she would furnish a list of supplies wanted. She declined to make a reply, so no store supplies have been furnished Now, if you think best, we can make up an assortment and send up to her but under the circumstances I would not be surprised if she refused to accept them- Would it not be best for you to write to her and tell her of the arrangement perhaps she would

#2

accept with better grace from you-
I learn that Tobe has endeavored to negotiate
a loan of $2000 with home as part security to redeem some lots sold
under mortgage. The same lots to redeem
which she endeavored to borrow from Harry
and from me without success- I never
saw such determination to hold on to property
which would be well sold for the debts-
I believe you should state the maximum
monthly amount from the store in addition
to the coal furnished as I expect some of
the provisions will find their way to John's pantry
and not remain where they were intended-
We are all well at home and are pleased
to learn that Father is so well- We shall
all be happy to see him at home again as
we miss him very much- We also look for
Charley's return this month with pleasure-
With much love
Your affectionate nephew
E. C. Means

It looks as if natural bas would be brought here from Bay County

Oct 10th 8

B. C. Howell Esq
Crawford. N. J.

Dear Sir:

Yours 8th inst enclosing outline form for a consolidation of the plants in Hanging Rock Iron Region at hand and noted -

I do not believe any arrangement to take bonds and stock in payment of present holdings would meet approval from present shareholders of the companies where I am interested - I certainly would not advise ours to part with their stock on any such plan as outlined -

I believe that money for improvements can be obtained under decidedly better terms; and 6% mortgage bonds on the properties, where we are interested, can be sold at par without a stock bonus - I can see nothing to be gained by undertaking such a plan until you have bought out present owners and then a new company can finance to its own best advantage - Unless such a purchase can be accomplished it will be useless to undertake a consolidation -

Yours truly: E. C. Evans

Oct 10th 1

B. C. Harrell Esq
Crawford N. J.

Dear Sir:

While as I wrote before that I have no option upon any of the companies' capital stock and have not taken up the matter with the various owners still I believe they can be bought and would put the following estimate of the amount needed to purchase the various properties enumerated below:

Norton Iron Works Kelly Nail & Iron Co Ballfont Iron Works Co Oakland Steel Co Sarah Furnace Co	At best prices obtainable for entire capital stock	$1.000.000
Bonds on Oakland Steel Co due in 1918		
Have been nearly all sold in addition		240.000
to above if returned would net 90%		24.000

A good shrewd buyer for cash might even do better and save some of the $1.000.000 for improvements and additional working capital.

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

Oct 12th 98

Hon John A. Hager
City –

Dear Sir:

After making diligent search for your receipt for notes of A. & H. Lampton I have arrived at the opinion that it was so safely filed that I cannot find it now. However I beg to acknowledge the receipt from you of all notes of A. & H. Lampton belonging to Margaret A. Means and John Means respectively and the notes are now filed with the papers of their respective owners –

Yours truly:
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means & John Means

Oct 14th 95

My dear Mr. Lyman:

Your favor 11th at hand.

My work here is in such condition, with other duties, that I will be unable to attend the Buffalo meeting - It is possible that I shall have to go to Youngstown & Pittsburgh next week.

Regarding shortage of ore for the operation of both furnaces - Is it not possible that the present operators of the Iron Gate & Buena Vista Furnaces would furnish us with ore in preference to running the latter furnace?

Another source of supply is rolling mill cinder. With chemists as at present we could safely introduce it into the ore mixture without detriment to the quality of iron -

I regret to learn from your letter & from Father that matters of morality are not improving with our L. M. friends -

With regards -

Yours truly:

E. C. Means

Oct 18th 98

H. G. Merry Esq G. M.
Low Moor Va

Dear Sir:

Your favor 17th at hand for which I thank you - The C&O people were asking lower price on slag and we wished information -

Mr. E. B. Willard, Pres. Meanskyle & Co at Hanging Rock, Ohio is seeking a new furnace founder. It has occurred to me that Mr. William McDonald, "Billy" I believe you call him, could be of assistance to him until he could find a man. The furnace has been making about 60 tons daily but with high fuel consumption - It should make 80 or 90 tons daily on present mixture and with much lower fuel -

Would you be willing to allow him to come out here and remain until Covington starts and do you believe he could handle the burdening of the furnace? I will take the matter up with Mr. Willard upon hearing from you -

Yours truly: E. C. Means

Oct 25th 98

Gazzam Gano Esq
Cincinnati O

Dear Sir!

Your favor 24th inst at hand enclosing certificate of stock #746 for seven (7) shares in the Central Trust & Safe Deposit Co, also enclosing check for $7.50 balance my remittance Sept 12th

Permit me to thank you for your kindness in this matter—

I reenclose the check for $7.50 for credit my account in your banking department. I wish to open an account with your company now that I am interested in it. The account will not be so active as to be a burden—

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

Oct 26th 98

W. W. Franklin Esq
Columbus O

Dear Sir:

The Board of Directors of the Norton Iron Works, at their regular quarterly meeting held this day, appointed a committee to invite like committees from the Kelly Nail & Iron Co and the Belfont Iron Works Co to a consideration of the possibility of combining the three companies into one.

The committe from the Norton Iron Works being Messrs J. M. Adams, A. F. Johnson & myself

We shall be pleased to have you present this matter to the Kelly Nail and Iron Co, and if it appoints a like committee, an early meeting be arranged -

I have written promptly because Mr. Adams will be here next week and if you wished it an informal meeting could be held -

Yours truly;
E. C. Means

Oct 26th 77

B. H. Burr Esq
Boston

Dear Sir:

The Board of Directors of the Boston Iron Works, at their regular quarterly meeting held this day, appointed a committee to invite like committees from the Belfont Iron Works Co and the Kelly Nail & Iron Co to a consideration of the possibility of combining the three companies into one. The committee from the Boston Iron Works being Messrs T. M. Adams, A. L. Johnson & myself.

We shall be pleased to have you present this matter to the Belfont Iron Works Co and if it appoints a like committee, an early meeting be arranged. I have written promptly because Mr. Adams will be here next week and if you desired it an informal meeting could be held.

Yours truly:

E. C. Means

Oct 31st 98

J. A. Boone Esq
Fayette, W. Va

Dear Sir:

Refering to yours 10th inst concerning Brown Coal Co's Lease, I find that it will be necessary to await the November meeting of the Law Moor Co before presenting the matter to them. Our people are inclined to go slowly into any expansion of business interests and unless a bargain was in sight would prefer to develop new property to suit their requirements.

The fact that the Brown Coal Co is in the combination of Coal Companies might operate against a purchase of it, unless it could be withdrawn from the combination at any time.

The day for our meeting has not been fixed but it will be about the middle of the month

With regards

Yours truly;
E. C. Means

Oct 31st 98

Frank Lyman Esq
New York

My dear Mr. Lyman:

Your favor 26th met at hand. Father & I have just returned from Cincinnati, preparing law suit for U. S. Supreme Court. We saw Mr. David Sinton and his son-in-law, Mr. Chas P. Taft. The former asked for his August statement. I was under the impression Mr. Walton had sent one to him. Please have him send another. Mr. Taft promised us he would endeavor to attend the stockholders meeting. Father gave him such a glowing description of L. M. & vicinity that he must be very much impressed.

Nov 16th as date of meeting will be certainly satisfactory to Father & myself.

I cannot form an opinion as to the assignment of the "Thurmond" contract without rereading the contracts. It will place us at some disadvantage to ascertain the market price, if all the mines are benefitted by any excess charges to the L. M. I. Co.

#2 F. L.

Have letter from Cargill, dated 30th inst, stating that Mr. Merry is still unable to come to office. "He was first taken with Asthma and for the "last week has had some trouble with his heart— "at least he has sinking spells, that leave him very "weak. Doctor Phillips has written to Capt. that "he had better come as his visit would do a good "deal in cheering him up. They do not know I am "writing this."

Under the circumstances — coupled with the fact that Mrs. Merry has been quite ill with "La Grippe" for three weeks, as she wrote my wife — would it not be well to consider Covington as point for meeting. Adjourning the meeting from L. M. to C. if necessary. There is still sufficient time before mailing notices of place and time for meeting for you to write to Mrs. Merry or Doctor Phillips. I mention Mrs. M. because Harry never will acknowledge any inconvenience and you could refer to her letter to Mrs Means.

Yours truly,

E. C. Means

Nov 1st 98

Mrs. E. J. McCleary
46 West 21st St. New York

My dear Madam:

Enclosed please find draft of the Ashland Natl Bank upon the National City Bank for the sum of Two hundred and ten (210^{00}) Dollars payable to your order.

This in payment of rooms & board of Miss Margaret A. Means from Nov 1st to Dec 6th 1898. Five weeks @ 42^{00} per week.

Kindly acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours respectfully,

E. C. Means

Agent for Margaret A. Means

B. H. Burr Esq
Boston
O

Nov 1st 98
28th inst

Dear Sir:

Herewith I enclose copy of letter from Mr. N. W. Franklin - I judge you will be called upon to lead the way if any thing is accomplished.

Yours truly:
E. C. Mecum

N. W. Franklin Esq
Columbus
Ohio

Nov 1st 98
29th inst -

Dear Sir:

Herewith I enclose copy of letter from Mr. B. H. Burr of the Belfast Co. in which he states he will present the matter to his board of directors at the first opportunity -

Yours truly:
E. C. Mecum

Nov 9th 95

William G. Snow Esq Secty Class of 1888 - M. I. T.
Watertown, Mass

Dear Sir:

Replying to your request for history beg to present the following:

Began service with the Low Moor Iron Co of Va as chemist and draughtsman at Low Moor Virginia in October 1890. Continuing same until Jany 1890 During the latter part of service assisting the Genl. Mang.

In Jany 1890 accepted service, as Secretary, with the Kentucky Iron, Coal and Manufacturing Co at Ashland Ky. In March 1890 also assumed duties of Secretary of the Ashland Improvement Co. Continued the dual position until May 31st 1891 -

In June 1891 entered the service of the Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co as Superintendent. Which position is still held. The duties are those of a general superintendent in charge of railroad, lands, mines, machine shops etc.

Yours truly,
E. C. Means

Nov 10th 8

Gazzam Gaus Esq Treas
The Central T & S. D. Co - Cincinnati
Dear Sir:

Enclosed find Check of the Ashland Coal & Iron Ry Co in my favor which please place to my credit as a deposit with Trust Co and oblige

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

Nov 15th 98

F. A. Hyne Esq Agent
Covington Ky

Dear Sir:

Yours 14th inst at hand enclosing check for $29.37 and bills receipted $7.88—
Your report shows rents collected since Sept 17th

J. P. Williams	$9.25		
E. Rich	5.00		
C. T. Mullins	5.00		
F. A. Hyne	15.00	$37.25	
" Commission		3.72	$40.97

Credits

Check Hyne	$29.37	
Commission "	3.72	
Repairs "	2.75	
Water Rent	3.00	
Lumber Handley & Co	2.13	$40.97

You can make repairs to chimneys and cellar doors and pay taxes—

Yours truly:
E. Co Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Nov 15th 98

Statement of Rents Nov 15th 1898
Due from Hyne Sept 30th 1898 - $59.00
Oct & Nov rent 2 mos 30.00 $89.00
Less credit Nov 15th 18.72
Balance Nov 30th 1898 $70.28

Wright moved out Oct 6th. He owed $8.00 Sept 25th
$12.50 less $5.00 = $7.50
G. Rich " " Nov 10th " " ~~[illegible]~~ "

J. P. Williams - up #304 - due Sept 8th $1.25
Sept 8 - to Nov 8 - 2 mos 10.00 11.25
Less credit 9.25
Balance Nov 8th 2.00

G. T. Mullins moved into #169 - 3rd Oct 12th
One months rent paid $8.00

Please let me know about #302 and lower #304 it appears to me that we should get some rent from them - The property is not bringing in a very large revenue at present and should do better -
Donot forget the taxes and let me hear from you soon after Dec 1st

Nov 21st 95.

B. C. Harrell Esq
Crawford N.J.

Dear Sir:

Replying to yours 19th inst. I did not reply to your letter of Oct 11th because I felt it useless to undertake interesting the owners of the various plants in this region in such a plan. If you could not find a purchaser for the whole outfit, you would not be successful in any plan which proposed bonds for present owners.

Yours truly;

E. C. Means

Nov 23rd 95

P. B. Warner Esq
Sunnyside W Va
Dear Sir:

Your favor 21st inst at hand too late for a reply yesterday -
Our Law Moor people are going very slow on the coal matter and have not as yet determined upon any purchase of coal lands -
Under the circumstances I cannot use your services to look into any purchase of coal property.
I regret to learn of your loss at Sunnyside and trust fortune will come to you from some other direction -

Yours truly;
E. C. Means

Nov 25th 98

Mr. A. T. Jameson
Portsmouth O

Dear Sir:

Your favor 22nd inst at hand. After consultation with John Means and Miss Margaret A. Means, we have concluded that until we ascertain the amount they shall receive for their stock it is not advisable to sign an option such as you mailed.

If it was an outright option at four without further conditions I believe they would sign it.

I expect to be in Portsmouth in the course of a week and will endeavor to see you or Mr. Kehoe.

Yours truly:

E. C. Means

Nov 29th 98

F. A. Hegne Esq Agent
Covington Ky

Dear Sir:

Yours 26th met at hand and noted I do not understand the improvements wanted at #302 Main St and how much they will cost. Nor do I understand what assurance you have that the parties will keep the house long enough to more than pay for the improvements. Of course we will make improvements for permanent tenants or where the expense is justified. Please advise me about this matter as soon as you can.

What arrangement have you made with the purchaser of your stock of goods about the use of the store room? And do you intend keeping the upper part of #300 Main St for your living rooms?

Taxes are about due, please pay them and send me your account as early as possible after the first of December. Yours truly,

E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Dec 2nd 98

My dear Mr Lyman:

Yours 27th ult at hand with enclosure. With reference to your contract with R. P. D. & O. Co, I beg to state that Father & myself both approve your action, and believe we can, as a Company, close the option and with safety accept the possibility of being overstocked with ore -

The matter of our Co. supplying cars might embarrass us on a large output, especially if any of our cars were used to move crude ore to the washer - Our shipments to Covington I presume C&O cars could be obtained to meet requirements.

The price I consider satisfactory for 45% ore, free of moisture; would even be willing to allow a small amount to be present rather than miss the opportunity of getting the ore -

Like you, I doubt the ability of the R. P. D. & O. Co. to furnish 75.000 tons of ore during 1899 - Under the circumstances, we can probably take care of the maximum out put in any one month, but would it not be prudent to limit the maximum & minimum

#2 F.L.

amounts for each month say to 9000 and 4000 tons
Any amount below 6250 tons each month to be
supplied later in preference to other purchasers.
If left as the contract is drawn, we could
offset any claim for delays on account cars
by a claim for failure to supply average output
of ore but could we not do the same with a
4000 ton minimum.

If you secure general approval from Directors
by letter, it would appear useless to call a meeting.
What did you learn about the possible output
from Mr. Ferguson's mines? I have heard nothing
from L. M. since we were there.

Our C&O friends have had a wrestle with
Mr. Blake, which I hope will clearly define the
rate question to our benefit, but I doubt it. Our
rate on coal to Lexington Ky is 90¢ per ton - 112 miles -
probably the rate from Thurmond there has been less -

With regards -

Yours truly:

E. C. Mann

Mr. F. C. Tomlinson Cashier
Dayton
O

Dec 2nd 98

Dear Sir: Herewith certificates of stock in name of Miss Margaret A. Means Nos 272. 763. 764 & 765 for $1000 = each. 2nd Nat'l Bank. Sent in to exchange for new certificates to agree with reduction of Capital Stock. Kindly make new certifs in her name. 10 shares each and return to me. Yours truly;
E. C. Means for M. A. M.

F. C. Tomlinson Esq
Cash 2nd Nat Bank
Dayton O

Dec 5 98

Dear Sir:
I beg to acknowledge receipt of your favor 3rd inst enclosing new certificates Nos 1071 & 1072 for Ten (10) shares each in name of Margaret A. Means
Yours truly;
E. C. Means

Dec 5th 98

Mrs. S. J. McChesney
46 West 21st Street New York

My dear Madam:

Enclosed please find draft of the Ashland State Bank upon the National City Bank for the sum of One hundred and sixty eight ($168) Dollars payable to your order.

This in payment of rooms & board of Miss Margaret A. Means from Dec 6th 1898 to Jany 3rd 1899 Four weeks @ $42 per week

Kindly acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours respectfully:

E. C. Means

Agent for Margaret A. Means

Dec 5th 95

A. F. Johnson Esq
Portsmouth O

Dear Sir:

My father, John Means, after hearing a repetition of my conversation with you declines to sign the option recently received with a circular letter addressed to the shareholders of the Portsmouth Gas and Electric Co.

Miss Margaret A. Means is now in Brooklyn and until I can get a reply from her I cannot say what course she will follow.

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

Dec 5th 95

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Last Saturday at Portsmouth I had a conversation with Mr. A. L. Johnson about the proposed sale of stock in the Portsmouth Gas & Electric Co. He believes the shareholders joining in the sale will receive par for the stock and said that over 90% had agreed to sell.

Father holds $750.00 of the stock and declines to sell. You have $2750.00 of the stock and the question is before you whether you prefer to do as 90% of the shareholders have done or take chances with Father and not sell out.

My own idea is in favor of selling because we know nothing about the new parties and their policy of handling the company. Your interest is larger than Father's and it may be safer for you to go out with the old regime rather than stay in and take the chances with a new crowd.

I wish you would write to me your preference in the matter so that I can act for you in time.

Ruby & H. E. are both well and we all miss you

#2

very much. H. E. was quite interested today when Santa Claus telephoned to know if she had a trunk. Santa (Aunt Mary) was at Mrs. Moats toy store and his memory was not good because he brought her a trunk last year and apparently forgot all about it.

We had a very pleasant evening with the Russells. With regards to Miss Molly and love for yourself

Yours affectionately:

[illegible]

Father I should have written declines to sign the present option but [illegible] sign one at par for the stock.

Dec 6th 98

Joseph C. Butler Esq
Cincinnati

My dear Joe:

Yours 5th inst with enclosure at hand. I have been out at Grant Mines all morning and arrived in town too late to secure the options. The absence of T. M. Adams from home prevents getting any considerable amount of the Stanton stock under option on short notice and without his aid only a small amount can be secured. I believe a controlling interest is held in Cincinnati and Louisville.

I am pleased to know you will meet Mr. Franklin but remember he is a very shrewd man. He will talk enough to get all he can out of you but will probably not commit himself to anything definite. Endeavor to get him to move, without waiting longer for Belfont, and have his committee appointed. In case you wish to proceed in getting options it would be better to have printed forms and mail to each stockholder.

Yours truly: E. L. Means

Dec 8th 98

William H. Guild & Co
#11 Bromfield St. Boston Mass

Gentlemen:

Enclosed find check Ashland Natl Bank for Twenty seven 70/100 Dollars ($27.70) - in payment of subscriptions as follows:

Harpers Weekly (Renewal) Thos. H. Means	Ashland, Kentucky	$3.45
Cosmopolitan (Renewal) Willis L. Ringo	Ashland, Kentucky	1.00
Judge (5 Renewals) Harold Means	Ashland, Kentucky	4.25
W. B. Seaton	" "	4.25
W. N. Mayo	" "	4.25
W. E. Maynard	#144 Sixth Ave Brooklyn N.Y.	4.25
Dr. E. L. Bullard	Waukesha, Wis.	4.25
Table Talk - E. C. Means	Ashland Ky	1.00
Ladies Home Journal	" " "	1.00
		$27.70

Please acknowledge receipt. Your early attention in getting subscriptions to publishers will be appreciated.

Yours truly: E. C. Means Supt

Dec 10th 98

A. T. Johnson Esq
Portsmouth O

Dear Sir:

Since writing to you 8th inst. I have seen Mr Joseph C. Butler and he informs me that the meeting in Cincinnati will be held at 9°30' A.M. Tuesday next at the Burnet House and that it is desirable that as many as possible be present Monday evening to go over the matter.

He said the Kelly Nail Co had appointed Messrs Franklin, Parrot & Ritchie, that no committee has been appointed by Belfont, and that he thought it was useless to wait upon them but to try and see if Norton & Kelly committees could agree. I believe him to be correct in this matter and believe if possible we should be present. At my suggestion he has wired Mr. Jas M. Bailey, a Norton Stockholder, to be present and he has agreed to do so.

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

Butlers strongest card was a possibility of the N. Co's acquiring Norton
Kindly keep this in mind as in Butlers hands.

Dec 10th 95

Dear Tom:

Since writing to you 8th inst I have seen Mr. Joe Butler and he informs me that the Kelly Nail & Iron Co have appointed Messrs. Franklin, Ritchie & Parrot a committee to meet a like committee from the Norton to endeavor to arrange a consolidation. Meet at the Burnet House at 9°30' A.M. Tuesday next and as many as possible be present Monday night.

Mr. John G. Peckles was so indefinite that Butler thought best to get Norton & Kelly Co's together first. Mr. Bailey has agreed to be present on his way to the A.C. & I directors meeting next Wednesday.

Butler's strong card was the probability of the A.C. & I. wanting Norton. This you will keep in mind, and as it was partly based on your expression to me that you would be willing for such a move I will thank you to say, if necessary to sustain Butler, that you were willing to give the A.C. & I an option on your stock. Butler believes that an agreement between Kelly's and Norton will bring Belfont in. Mr. L. B. Harrison told

2

Butler, that with a consolidation of the rail companies credit for working capital could be obtained.

I am sorry that I did not know earlier about the time and place of meeting but I trust this letter will reach you in time.

Our coke experiment appears to be a success and we are now using the output of 20 ovens and will soon have the full 30 in operation.

In accordance with your expressed willingness Seaton, Charley & I have leased 2000 acres of Belfont land to A. C. Campbell and assigns for oil & gas drilling. giving also the privilege of 2000 acres more if called for within one year. In the last 2000 acres, if leased, the agreement is that 1000 acres are to be laid out in alternate lots of 360 acres each and we are to hold each alternate lot.

We are to have 1/8 of oil and a minimum of $200 per year for each gas well, from which gas is removed.

Hager says it is possible our case at Washington will be reached within next two weeks.

Yours truly, E. C. Means

Dec 15th 98

F. A. Hyne Esq Agent
Covington Ky
Dear Sir:

Yours 12th inst at hand and noted. I was in Cincinnati Wednesday but did not have time to get over to see you.

You have not replied to my questions about the probable length of time Mr. Dorward would occupy the store rooms if we went to the expense of cutting door and building partition. The store room has rented heretofore for $5.00 per month and with the improvement we should have $6.00 per month for it. I mean #302 Main St.

How have you arranged about #300 Main St? Do you still live over the store and use the kitchen? And who lives over #302 Main St

I wish you would make me a prompt reply to these questions.

Yours truly:
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Dec 15th 95

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Your letter 7th at hand enclosing option on Ports Gas & Elect. Co stock duly signed -

Herewith I send you "Standing Order to Mast Inst." First Consolidated Mortgage Registered Gold Bonds of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway Co. Which please sign and return to me -

The coal washer is now in good working order and we are making a very good grade of coke which is being used at the furnace.

We are having fine weather and the ice in river has temporarily stopt the steam boats.

Aunt Mary will give N.E. the dressmier so you will not be put to the trouble. I am very much obliged to you for remembering it.

Father left yesterday for Waukesha to bring Rose and Lester home -

Jane Adams is here for a few days -

With love to yourself & regards to Miss Molly

Yours affectionately: E. C. Benedict

Dec 17th 95

A. T. Johnson Esq
Portsmouth O

Dear Sir:

In connection with proposed sale of the Ports. Gas & E. Co Stock I am advised by Miss Margaret A. Means that she will sign option Please advise what course to persue.

Have heard nothing more about the Rail Co's. While I spoke off hand about the Brick Co to you, it has occurred to me that you might think well of acquiring an interest in the Clinton Fire Brick Works. Our earnings there have always justified a dividend annually upon the stock.

You are aware of the advantages, if any, Ashland possesses for manufacture of Fire Brick and it would be useless to suggest them to you.

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

Dec 20th 8

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Yours 18th with inclosure at hand. We are sorry to learn of the illness of yourself and Miss Molly. Trust you have recovered. Inclose letter handed me by Mr Porter from Aunt Hampton. I judge she has concluded to avail herself of your proffered generosity. H.E. has the Grip or Whooping Cough today.

With love — Yours aff. E.C. Means

Dec 21st. 95

B. C. Harvell Esq
Crawford N. J.
Dear Sir:

In response to yours of 5th inst with enclosures
Since you were here we have succeeded in making
coke from our own coal fields and now have 26
ovens in regular operation. This will very greatly
strengthen our position as iron makers.

Parties are looking about for idle furnaces and
it looks as if the "Hanging Rock" region would be
right in it next year. With furnaces, steel mill, rod
mill and nail mills all hard at it.

What effect the introduction of natural gas will have,
I cannot imagine, but the expenditure of $600.000 in
the new line looks as if outriders were willing
to risk a large amount in anticipation of a favorable
development between Guyandotte and Hanging Rock.
The man that gets his wagon here first will get
the juiciest melon in the field.

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

Dec 23rd 98

My dear Aunt Margaret:

In reply to yours 19th inst which came to hand yesterday I endose herewith a draft of the Ashland Natl Bank upon the Natl City Bank for One thousand ($1000.00) Dollars payable to your order.

Last night we had rain but today is bright and sunny so that Rose & Dexter will feel that they are in the South when they arrive. We wish you could be here with us and join the family gathering. Charley is still here. H. E.'s case was pronounced to be "Grip" by Dr. Wade. She is up from her bed and other than the cough appears about well again.

With regards to Miss Molly and love for your self

Your affectionate nephew:

E. C. Converse

Dec. 23rd. 1898

Mr. Thomas A. Mack,

Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Sir:-

I have your favor of Dec. 19th. inclosing new note for six months, dated Dec. 20th. 1898 for $2626.75, also new note for four months dated Dec. 20th. 1898 for $3060.00, and I return here-with the old notes, Viz. Six month note dated June 20th. 1898 for $2626.75, and four month note dated August 20th. 1898 for $3060.00.

Your check on Merchants National Bank for $136.50 in payment of interest also received, for which I thank you.

Yours truly:-

E. C. Means.
for John Means

Dec. 23rd. 1898

Mr. Thomas A. Mack,

Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Sir:-

I have your favor of Dec. 21st. inclosing check for $1.14 covering amount of Revenue Stamps to be attached to Notes, for which I thank you.

Yours truly:-

E. C. Means

F. A. Hyne Esq
Covington
Ky

Dec 27th 98
1st Inst

Dear Sir: Have been waiting to get the tax receipt from you. Please hurry this matter—

I do not understand about the hydrant— From water bills we have been paying I thought the house supplied with water.

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

Dec 28th 98

F. A. Hyne Esq Agent-
Covington, Ky-

Dear Sir:

Your letter 26th inst at hand enclosing Tax receipt for Thirty five ($35.00) Dollars and Water Rental receipt for Two 50/100 ($2.50) Dollars for #300 Main St.

You report Rents collected since Nov 14th

G. T. Mullins	$8.00		
J. P. Wrights	3.00		
J. C. Williams	3.75		
F. A. Hyne	22.75	$37.50	
" Commission		3.75	$41.25

Credits:

Tax receipt	$35.00		
Water "	2.50	$37.50	
Commission		3.75	$41.25

You can make the changes in No 302 Main St desired by the grocery man, on condition he takes the rooms for one year, and pays enough more than $5.00 per month to cover the expense in 12 months-

Yours truly: E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Dec 28th 98

Statement of Rents as reported to Dec 26th 1898

Due from Hyne Nov 30th 1898 $70.28

Dec Rent 1 month 15.00 $85.28

Less credit Dec 26th 26.50

Balance due Dec 31st 1898 $58.78

Wright moved out Oct 6th owing $8.00. Sept 25th

credit 3.00 Balance $5.00

J. P. Williams owed Nov 8th $2.00

2 mo rent from Nov 8th to Jan 8th 10.00 $12.00

Credit .75

Balance due Jan 8th $8.25

G. J. Mullins owed Dec 12th 1 mo's rent 8.00

credit 8.00

#302 Main St not reported—

Can you fill up the vacant rooms?

Dec 29th 98

My dear Mr. Lyman:

Your favor 27th inst with several inclosures at hand.

Regarding the Scotland trip I can arrange for six weeks trip and would prefer to leave here middle of June or 1st of July.

Father and I will be in Washington Monday next to remain one or more days, depending upon the date at which the Supreme Court hears our cases. If it should be heard Tuesday we would leave for home Tuesday night otherwise later in the week. It is possible we will reach Washington Sunday morning We will stop at the "Shoreham". While his attention will be largely given to the attorneys in the preparation of final argument, my time will not be so much engaged but that I could talk over matters with you. and if you can come over Monday would be glad to see you. Or if you come Tuesday it might be that you will hear the case argued. I am told that any sitting of the Court is of interest to one not familiar with the Court.

#2 F. L.

I note your arrangement with Tredegar Co for Mill Cinder and Roll Scale. It will be well, if you can arrange it, to have the Iron Cinder & Steel Cinder separated. The Roll Scale must be separate from the Cinder. At Hanging Rock the mixture is as follows: 4/15 Native ore 8/15 Lake Ore 2/15 Mill Cinder 1/15 Roll Scale. The Iron Cinder is from puddling furnaces and heating fires, the Steel Cinder from heating fires alone. There would be some differences in phos. contents. Probably a separation of Puddling Cinder & Heating Fur Cinder would be sufficient.

The Roasted Pyrite I know nothing about. It is possible the sulphur will be troublesome when furnace is running fast and not extra hot. With hot furnace, strong of lime, running slow as we do here on Silvery iron, the sulphur could be taken care of better than at Covington.

I do not know of a good man for Covington Fce We have recently employed a young man, Williams, at Hanging Rock upon recommendation of Pickands, Brown & Co. He is 26 years old, I am told (I have not seen him yet) and is doing excellent work.

Dear F. L.

I would suggest that you consult Oglebay, Norton & Co or Mr. T. S. Richards of M. A. Hanna & Co Cleveland. The are men are well acquainted with furnacemen, generally more so than people situated as we are. I believe the man at Hanging Rock receives $2000 for year.

The man in charge of Furnace at Columbus O of Stieg Gilbert & Warner, his name I have forgotten, has made large out put there on Bessemer now. Mr. Millard at Hanging Rock thought he had secured his services but the man declined to come "for family reasons"

The price of coke for this region is fixed at $1.25 delivered for next six months. Standard Coke. In case of trouble with C&O Ry, it will be well to apply to C&O Coal Co. Cincinnati. who appear to have the inside track on coal & coke.

I note clipping regarding consolidations in Virginia There appears to be no end to these consolidations and rumors of such. The ones that control raw materials will come out ahead -

With regards Yours truly

E. G. Grace

Dec 29th 95

My dear Mr. Leyman:

Col. Putnam informs me that this Company has been buying the Tredegar cinder at 50 cents per ton and suggests that we do not bid against each other for the business. As you have practically closed with the Tredegar Co, he requests that you allow him to secure the Old Dominion & Standard Co's cinder. At least, until after you have tried the cinder at Lexington, and are satisfied with the use of it, he does not think you will object to holding the price down. Tredegar still owes him about 2500 tons.

I find my position rather embarrassing, as I presumed there was more of a market for the Richmond cinder and now learn that the market has been limited to Ashland. However I do not believe I have been partial to Law Moss in the matter as I only suggested the possibility of using the cinder. It would have probably occured as it has, if I had not been interested in Law Moss.

Yours truly, E. C. Means Jr.

Dec 29th 98

A. F. Johnson Esq
Portsmouth O

Dear Sir:

Herewith I enclose blank proxy signed by Miss Margaret A. Means and the certificate of stock in her name in the Portsmouth Gas & Electric Co for 55 shares signed by myself as her attorney in fact, as she is now in NewYork.

My father, John Means will not join in sale.

There is nothing new to report about the Steel Co

Yours truly:

C. C. Means

Dec 25 98

My dear Mr Lyman:

Yours 26th inst at hand. At Hanging Rock this morning I secured copies of different analyses as follows:

Mill Cinder:			Roll Scale		Squeezer Scale	
Phos	.18		.204	.18		.150
Silica	27.20	27.75	5.60	18.20	13.50 - 10.50	10.00 - 13.60
Metallic Iron	64.70	53.20			65.10. 69.50	68.00
Manganese	Trace			.20		.12
Alumina	4.00	4.05				
Sulphur	.15	.09	.27	.12		.13

I was hurried in getting the above but I believe there are sufficient determinations to allow you to estimate an average complete analysis.

Mr. Willard has letters from a number of furnacemen and I will try to secure them containing applications. Mr. Church (N.S.C.) was the Columbus man I refered to in my letter of yesterday. He is about 55 years of age. Has two grown daughters. Mr. M. believes it was owing to the wishes of the daughters that Mr Church declined coming to Hanging Rock. $2000 was offered to him-

+2 L.L.

At $1.25 delivered at Covington, you can afford to take the Tredegar cinder to the amount of 6000 tons in 1899. You will notice that the squeezer scale is higher in phos than the roll scale. The roll scale will offset some of the impurities of the mill cinder. And with our silicious ores in Va can probably be used to good advantage.

I am pleased to learn of your decision about the stove. At H.R. they are putting in a gas washer to remove the necessity of cleaning stoves and flues so often. If it is a success I shall ascertain cost for your information. I believe it will solve the flue dust question for us and permit of cleaner stoves and higher heats. They are also putting in a Uhling(?) pyrometer same as I saw at City Fce's Birmingham last spring. The new furnaceman appears to be making very intelligent improvements. Still I doubt if his experience, 6 years, would stand full requirements for Va Fce practice. He would require education on the variable contents of Va ores.

Yours truly: E. C. Evans

Jany 2nd 99

Jas Alexander Esq
Newport Ky

Dear Sir

In reply to yours 30th inst I am not familiar with the steps taken by Mr. Laidley in the Consolidated Boat Store Co. At our last annual meeting it was the General opinion that it would be best to either wind up the Boat Store affairs or purchase the stock of those not largely interested in the Packet Companies. Some of us objected to the arrangement as it then was - Father & myself in particular, as we were not interested in the boat store, felt that the steamboats were paying to much for supplies -

As I am not familiar with the action taken by Mr Laidley, which I presume is in the interest of the Packet Cos, I cannot attempt to act in the matter - My advice would be to turn in your stock to him -

Yours truly, E. C. Mann

Jany 2nd 98

F. A. Laidley Esq
Cincinnati O

Dear Sir:

Have received a letter from Mr. Jas Alexander telling me that you have requested him to turn in his Boat Store stock and receive 50 ℔ for it. I presume this is in accordance with vote of last Annual meeting of Stockholders and have so advised him. I declined to buy the stock [illegible] the grounds that you were acting for the Packet Co, and that Father & I, both favored the move of getting the interest of the Packet Co in better shape for purchase of supplies.

I advised him to turn in his stock.

We would be pleased to learn what you have done in the Boat Store affair and also the general results of last years business.

With best wishes for a prosperous New Year

Yours truly:

E. C. Means

Jany 3rd 99

My dear Aunt Margaret:

Herewith I enclose a letter from Mrs. Lampton to Mr. Foster. You will please note that she asks how much she can draw. Under the circumstances it will be best for all of us that you fix a limit per month. Mr. Linton allows her as I understand it $500. per year. Of late I have heard that she is doing some work for charity by giving to people that she considers more needy than herself. Under different circumstances I should consider this commendable - but at present I simply desire that you know the conditions as I hear of them. In the absence of further instructions from you I shall limit her account to $25.00 per month this would amount to $300 per year, and with Mr. Linton allowance, $1100 per year. Which is probably more than the family earnings were prior to the death of Mr. Lampton and since they had the Postmastership.

I desire to close your years business today making the year from Jany 4th 1898 to Jany 3rd 1899 inclusive. You have not furnished me with the amount of donations

+2

you have made during the year and of which I have no record. This amount it has been customary to deduct from expense account, in which latter account all remittances to you have been charged. I can delay closing the Profit & Loss accounts until I hear from you I should have written earlier and reminded you of this. Any checks to donations not now in will go into next years business accounts.

We have snow on ground and zero weather yesterday We shall probably go to Washington the last of this week. Ruby has probably written full account of the Goober Party and of the burning of Mrs. Bagby's house.

With regards to Miss Molly and love for yourself

Your affectionate nephew:

E. C. Means

F. A. Laidley Esq. G.M.
Cincinnati
O

Jany 5th 98
4th inst

Dear Sir:

Your favor enclosing two annual passes at hand, for which I thank you. Will try to attend Annual meeting but leave for Washington today and am not certain when shall be able to return.

Yours truly,
E. C. Means

Mr. Frank Lyman Treas
31 Burling Slip
New York

Jany 11th 98
9th inst

Dear Sir:

Herewith I return, signed, certfs # 194 & 195. Saw Mr. Effinger on train going to Thurmond meeting of operators. Told him to name low price on Coke or you could not compete with Ohio Valley F'ces. He said he was trying to learn whether a supply was obtainable for Covington. We feel well pleased with Mr. Maxwells presentation of our case before the court.

Yours E. C. Means

Reached home 7:30 P.M. today

Jany 12th 99

F. A. Laidler Esq & Co.
Cincinnati

Dear Sirs

Favors 10th inst at hand with dividend checks enclosed.

Father & I were not able to attend meeting being detained in Washington until afternoon of 10th inst and only reaching home yesterday P.M.

I am not sufficiently familiar with Boat Store to know what the stock is worth. Will you kindly furnish me with statement of earnings and value of inventory.

Father thinking we would be able to attend the Packet Co meeting delayed sending you this proxy until too late. However I suppose it made no difference.

We are pleased to receive checks for dividend and hope good results from business will continue.

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

Jany 2nd 99

Mrs. S. J. McChesney
46 West 21st Street
New York

My dear Madam:

Enclosed please find draft of Ashland Nat'l Bank upon the National City Bank for the sum of One hundred and sixty eight ($168-) Dollars payable to your order.

This in payment of rooms & board of Miss Margaret A. Means from Jany 3rd to Jany 31st 1899. Four weeks @ $42 per week

Kindly acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours respectfully,

E. C. Means

Agent for Margaret A. Means

P.S. Have been away from home. Hence delay which please pardon—

Jany 12th 9

My dear Aunt Margaret:

Your letter of 5th inst came after we had taken train for Washington hence delay in replying & it and delay in preparing usual annual report to you.

I am very much obliged to you and thank you for your liberality in estimating the value of my humble services in your behalf and take pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of your check upon the Oakland Bank for One thousand ($1000.00) Dollars in full payment of my services during the year just closed.

With the information furnished about your donations I shall enter same and take off usual trial balance and make up reports and forward later.

I note your desire to allow Mrs. Lampton not to exceed $25.00 per month in supplies & fuel for home and will so inform our Mr. Foster.

Father & I returned home yesterday afternoon in good health and with feelings of relief that the Means' Will Case had finally been argued before the highest court in the country

#2 M. L. M.

We were pleased with the Maxwells' presentation of our side of the controversy. He was thoroughly familiar with all the facts and points involved and could have kept the Court interested for a much longer period than the two hours allowed him. He made the entire argument for our side while Judson Harmon & H. Hidden divided the time for the other side. I do not believe they did well to allow a division of time as Harmon did not appear to be fully familiar with the case and did not make a favorable argument.

Mr. Frank Lyman came on to Washington to see us and he & I made a trip to the Maryland Steel Works, 9 miles from Baltimore. Mr. L. said if he was judge, he would decide the case in our favor. Mr. L. still wants me to go to Scotland with him and we have agreed on a six weeks trip in July & Aug. next. Under the circumstances I do not feel that I can go to Mexico and while I feel very grateful for your kind offer to meet the expenses of the Mexico trip I shall have to decline accepting it. If Mr. L. had not wanted me to decide before your kind proposal was made I would have been only too well pleased to have accepted

#3 M. A. M.

I am having very good health at present and as the summer heat has troubled me more or less the last few years I believe the vacation at that season of the year will prove beneficial.
All are well at home. Lily left yesterday.
With much love to yourself and kind regards to Miss Molly.

Your affectionate nephew:

E. A. Meane

P. S. Am sending draft to Mrs. McChesney today in full for your rooms & board to Jany 31st 1898.

Jany 16th 99.

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Herewith I send you certain statements in connection with your business affairs from Jany 1st 1898 to Jan 3rd 1899- Trial Balance; Profit & Loss account- Items of Dividend, Interest, Rents, Donations, Expenses, Insurance, Taxes, Commissions, Repairs Court costs- accounts- Income & Expenditures- List of Bills Receivable- List of Assets having a market value and of those not-

I believe the above will give you all the information you may desire to have about last years affairs. If, however, anything additional is wanted please write to me and I will forward the information with pleasure-

You will notice that a balance remained to be carried from the Profit & Loss to the Capital Stock account this year of $1.030.93, inspite of the $2000 reduced stock of the 2nd Natl Bank of Boston-

Yours affectionately:

E. G. Torrance Agent & Attorney

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.
E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.
ROBERT PEEBLES, SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED)
Ashland, Ky., Jany 18th 1899
In reply to your of

Mr. R. W. Raymond Sec
Am. Inst. Mining Engrs
New York

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find my check for $11.00 in payment annual dues & binding volume.

Yours truly,
E. C. Means

Jany 21st 9

Mr. Gazzam Gaur Treas
Cincinnati

Dear Sir.

Please inform me how large deposits you receive in Savings Department which bear interest at rate of 6% on twelve months deposits and @ 3% per annum on four months deposits and oblige.

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

Jany 23d 9

W. W. Franklin Esq
Columbus 6

Dear Sir:

Replying to yours 21st inst.
The party, that we were expecting here, writes that other engagements have prevented his coming. We have nothing definite as to when we may expect him. I judge, however, from newspaper reports that he is meeting with success in his other work and especially in keeping details from the public.

In your letter, as I take it, two plans are suggested. (1). That some one should be selected in each company to be prepared to acquire for a Money Syndicate any shares of stock offered for sale. And thus by establishing a ready demand for the stock, enhance the market value.

This plan does not propose acquiring a controlling interest in any of the three companies.

(2). That in order to be prepared to meet and conduct negotiations with any prospective purchaser for a controlling interest, you propose that one person from each of the companies act for the stockholders of for so many of them as may wish to sell.

WWB #2

This plan would require that at least two of the persons should represent a controlling interest of their respective companies.

The first proposition, if carried out in a small way, would enable the purchaser to secure a minority holding for a low price, but would it not also establish a market value which it would be difficult for the holders of the majority to overcome when they undertook to negotiate a sale of their stock?

For instance this would be true if the Money Syndicate did not work with the majority, or acquiring a majority wanted all.

One reason alone appears sufficient for the second proposition viz Having all the stock we want, it would enable us to ascertain the feeling of the majority interest in each company as to selling out and their opinion of satisfactory terms.

If however we are to aid the Money Syndicate in acquiring all the stock obtainable for a low figure, it would be better to postpone any action open to all. While I am not a "Money Syndicate" I have recently purchased a very small amount of Boston stock at a very low price. and

N. M. R. #3

could still buy more at a very reasonable price if I were willing to risk the speculation -

At present I am very busy and do not feel that I can spare the time to visit Columbus to talk this matter over with you. However, I shall be pleased to receive any further suggestion from you as to your ideas of the best manner of proceeding to obtain the most for our several interests -

Yesterday I had a talk with Garret at the Stock Exchange office - He promises that we shall all be pleased with the Rod Mill and the economical work we shall find it capable of performing -

Yours truly,
E. L. Means

P.S. Would it not be well to have an expression from Taylor & Co as to their purpose in seeking to acquire a minority interest in the several companies?

Janry 26th 99

F. A. Hyne Esq & agt
Covington Ky

Dear Sir

Yours 25th inst at hand enclosing notice from Charles H. Miltais 815 Powers Bldg Rochester N. Y. stating that he had purchased the property of Margt Means, N Blk 12 Jr K at tax sale by sheriff of Kenton County.

I notice that it is payable with penalty and interest at the F. & T. Bank Covington Ky

This will have to be paid at once in order to stop interest and avoid complications.

You will therefor go to the F. & T. Bank and make the payment required and get a full release. Then take the release to the sheriffs office and find out whether it will have to be recorded in the Clerks office so as to clear the title to the property.

I will write to Mr Miltais to send the Tax Certificate to the F. & T. Bank and that you will pay it.

Yours truly

E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Jany 26th 99

Mr. Charles H. Wiltsie
818 Powers Bldg
Rochester N.Y.

Dear Sir:

I am advised that you have purchased at Tax sale the property of Margaret S. Means 11 Blk 12 J & R Covington, Kenton County, Kentucky. Please send Tax Certificate etc to F. & T. Bank, Covington and same will be paid by F. A. Hyne of 300 Main St Covington Ky.

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

There must have been some failure on part of sheriff to collect these taxes as we always pay taxes promptly upon notice.

January 26th. 1899

Mr. W. W. Franklin,

Columbus, Ohio.

Dear Sir:-

Your favor of Jany. 24th. at hand. The committee appointed by Norton Iron Works to negotiate for consolidation of the three Nail Companies, was, by resolution of the Directors, at their last meeting, continued. This committee would act in connection with committees from the other two Companies in the consideration of any proposition which might be brought forward by outsiders for the purchase of ~~the~~ all the plants. Under the circumstances, I do not believe it would be necessary to have additional authority conferred upon them by the Directors or Stock-holders. So far as I know, the Belfont people have not appointed such a committee and it might be well to take the matter up with them.

As I now understand your definition of the purposes of a Money Syndicate, I see no objection to encourage such a plan among outsiders, and think it might be benificial to enhance the value of the stocks, and remove weak or disgruntled stockholders, and at the same time bring strong people, financially, into our midst.

I am glad to know that the three Companies have each so promptly responded in favor of building the Wire Drawing Plant, as proposed by the Directors of the Steel Company, and trust we may see the same soon under contract.

As a matter of information, it may interest you to know that the Executive Committee of the Steel Company have extended an option to the parties owning the Charleston Wire Nail Plant for their supply of Wire Rods during twelve months based upon their furnishing Pig Iron from which to manufacture same. The Charleston parties propose to add to their plant 40 Barbed Wire Fence machines, and will use about 2000 tons of Rods per month.

Yours truly:-

E. C. Means

January 28th. 1899

Mr. W. W. Franklin,

Columbus, Ohio.

Dear Sir:-

Since writing you last, I have seen Mr. Robert Peebles, and informed him of the substance of our recent correspondence. I am pleased to say that he seems to be heartily in accord with the proposal to have a committee from each Company prepared to conduct negotiations as you suggested. I think also that he would be willing to recommend a like committee from this Company.

We can do the same from Means, Kyle & Co. This would practically equip us with sufficient Furnace capacity to take care of the Steel Plant, and the greater part of the present trade on Foundry iron.

It may interest you to know that a gentleman from Philadelphia was here to-day to see Mr. Kelly, and wanted to buy the entire out-put of Rods of the Steel Co. Mr. Kelly declining to negotiate on any such proposition, the gentleman has gone to Ironton to see Mr. Richey, and negotiate with him for his entire out-put of Wire Nails.

Yours truly:-

E. C. Dawes

Febry 1st 9

Dr. D. C. Wilson
Denton
Dear Sir:

Herewith my check for $2.00 in payment your bill Jan 28th

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

Febry 1st 99

Mrs S. J. McCleary
46 West 21st Street
New York

My dear Madam:

Enclosed please find draft of Ashland Nat'l Bank upon the National City Bank for the sum of One Hundred and sixty eight ($168.00) Dollars payable to your order.

This in payment of room & board of Miss Margaret A. Means from Jany 31st to Feby 28th 1899. Four weeks @ $42.00 per week.

Kindly acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours respectfully:

E. C. Means

Agent for Margaret A. Means

P. S. We are expecting Aunt Margaret at noon today. I learn that Mrs. Lampton's condition remains the same.

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN Q. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.
E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.
ROBERT PEEBLES, SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

OFFICE OF

Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.

(INCORPORATED.)

Ashland, Ky., Febry 13th 1899

In reply to yours of 4th inst

Mrs M. E. Johnson
135 Oxford St
North Cambridge Mass

My dear Mrs Johnson:

Herewith I send you a circular letter and trustee agreement which Mr. Adams & our family are favoring and signing And sending our certificates of stock to the Central Trust & S. D. Co. This is in line with my former letter. With regards. Very respectfully: E. C. Means

Feby 16th 99

My dear Mr. Lyman:

In reply to your telegram of yesterday I wired you "Any day of week after next will suit me."

As Wednesday will be Mar 1st, I thought you might have other meetings for that day - and Thursday or Friday would suit me equally as well as Wednesday.

It is quite fortunate we postponed the date for meeting considering the interruption to passenger traffic on C & O Ry.

We have managed to keep the 3 furnaces in operation here, but using an additional proportion of Coke as the coal miners did not go to work in full number during the extreme cold.

Has anything new developed in efforts to start the Covington Furnace?

All Lake Ores, except the Mesabi, appear to have been sold for next season on short notice. With a freight rate of $1.15 per ton to Covington, Mesabi ore will be about $3.15 f.o.b. Covington.

Yours truly: E. C. Meaus

Febry 16th 99

F. A. Hyne Esq Agent
Covington Ky
Dear Sir:

Yours 11th inst with enclosures.
You report collections as follow:

G. T. Mullins	16.00		
F. A. Hyne	25.75	41.75	
"		3.87	$45.62

You credits

Check	$5.00	
Tax receipt	30.95	
Water "	2.50	
Plumber McCarty "	2.50	
Stephens & Scales Lock "	.50	
Commission	4.17	$45.62

Herewith I return tax receipt which you will have corrected by getting the right one.
After getting the right one take it to Clerks office and get proper entry made of it. Then return to me

Yours truly:
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Statement of Rents as reported to Feby 11th 1899

Due from Hynes Dec 31st 1898 $58.75

Jan & Feb rent 25.75 $0.00
58.75
Credit Feb 11th 0.87 29.62 $59.16

Balance due Feb 28th 1899 $59.16

Wright still owes $5 — moved out Oct 6th 98

J. P. Williams Balance due Jan 8th $5.25
Rent " Feb 8 5.00
Balance due " " 10.25

G. F. Mullins 2 months rent to Feb 12th $16.00
Credit 16.00

Try and get me more money for next time as you have only reported collections in your last letter for two houses out of four. Who have you in the other two houses.

330

Februsty 27th, 1903.

Rev. H.C Weakley

Cor. Sec. Christ Hospital.

Cincinnati O.

ear Sir:-

Enclosed please find check for Thirty Nine ($39.00)Dollars. for Room and services Nurse one week..

Please receipt to Miss, Margaret A Means. Ashland, Ky. care E.C.Means.

And oblige.

E?C.Means.

Per.

February 28th, 1899.

Mrs. S.J.Mc, Chesney.

8 46 West 21st Street.

New York.

My dear Madam:-

Enclosed please find draft of the Ashland National Bank, on the National City Bank, for the sum of Two Hundred and Ten ($210.00) dollars payable to order Miss Margaret A Means, made payable to her order through mistake of the cashier here. but you can get her to indorse the check to you which will make it alright..

This in payment of rooms and board of Miss. Margaret A. Means from Februar-ry, 28th, to April 4th, 1899. Five weeks at $42.00 per week.

Kindly acknowledge receipt and oblige.

Yours respectfully

E.C.Means,
Agent for Margaret A.Means.

pr S

Mar 8th 99

Rev H. C. Mabley
Cor Sec Christ Hospital
Cincinnati O

Dear Sir

Enclosed find check on Citizens Natl Bank Cincinnati for Thirty nine ($39.00) Dollars in payment for Room and Nurse one week Mrs. M. A. Lampton Please receipt for same to Miss Margaret A. Means in my care.

Miss Means informs me there may be some charges for laundry which she desire to pay when due.

Yours truly;
E. C. Means

Mar 10th 99

E. B. Willard Esq Great
Hanging Rock O

Dear Sir!

Enclosed herewith a copy of an option given by the Estate of Chas W. Means. John Means, Margaret A. Means, J. M. Adams and Adams Admir which speaks for itself. Please notify all stockholders of Means, Kyle & Co that such course has been taken and request a reply to the query whether they wish to join in the sale. if made.

As this is in line with a recent conversation held with you over telephone I trust it meets your approval. It might be well for you to send a copy to each shareholder for signature when signed and send same to us here that all may be fully protected.

I shall be pleased to learn about any recent sales of iron and price.

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

Mar 10th 99

My dear Mr. Lyman:

Yours favor 6th inst duly rec'd. Was kept in house two full weeks, but outside of weakness in limbs, am now feeling well, and am back in the office.

Father and I talk of going over to Hot Springs for a week. He has had a touch of rheumatism in his back for several days but keeps going about. Probably last of next week will suit us both as a time to leave here. We shall hope to see you there and would be pleased to learn when you expect to reach Virginia.

This looks like the Furnace owner's year with the advance of $4 per ton now here.

I have great faith in Low Moor's ultimate prosperity, with raw material in our control, and hope the Covington Fce will soon be in operation to add to this years profits.

Here, we are keeping about 10.000 tons on order books and putting up prices right along.

The Steel Co has secured a supply of iron and

F. L. #2.

is selling billets and rods for delivery April, May and June. The Rod Mill will be in operation first of April and if the trust does not gobble it, as it has all other Rod Mills of any size, we shall expect a full run balance of the year In order to protect the holders of Boston Iron Works stock, as no particular interest held a majority of the stock, we have placed all certificates in the hands of a committee to sell to the highest bidder. Owning a third interest in the Steel Co will prove the salvation of the Boston I. Wks.

Rogers, Brown & Co are securing options on various properties here and across the river in Ohio. Whether anything will result is guess work but I learn Mr. Brown states that he has strong parties back of him.

Am pleased to learn your sore no longer causes pain.

With regards

Yours truly,

E. C. Means

March 14th. 1899

Mr. F. A. Hyne,
Covington, Ky.,

Dear Sir:-

Inclosed here-with letter of Chas. H. Wiltsie with tax receipt No.444 in name of Miss Means. Kindly return the other one to Mr. Wiltsie. and have Clerk or Sheriff make entry of release of Miss Means tax sale. Afterwards return the inclosed receipt to me.

Yours truly:-

E. C. [illegible] Agent
for Margaret A. Means

March 14th. 1899

Mr. Chas. H. Wiltsie,
Rochester, N. Y.

Dear Sir:-

Yours of the 11th. at hand inclosing tax receipts for Miss Margaret Means No.444 Kenton County, Ky., I sent the other receipts to our Agent at Covington, Ky., with instructions to make exchange at the bank.

I will now forward this one and have the other one returned to you.

Yours truly:-

E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Mar 1st 99

Rev H. C. Mabley
Cor. Sec. Christ Hospital
Cincinnati O

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find check on the Citizens Natl Bank, Cincinnati, for the sum of Thirty nine ($39.00) Dollars in payment for Room and nurse One week Mrs. M. L. Lampton-

Please receipt for same to Miss Margaret L. Means in my care

Yours truly;
E. C. Means

P. S. I expect to be away from home next week and upon my return will promptly remit remittances

Mar 14th 9

E. B. Willard Esq
Prest Means Kyle & Co
Hanging Rock. O

Dear Sir:

Mr. Charles W. Means will introduce to you the representative of Rogers. Brown & Co, who comes for the purpose of making an examination of the physical and financial condition of the corporation of Means. Kyle & Co. As this is a matter in which we are all interested and as we believe the examination is to be made in good faith with purpose of purchase if the value of the property warrants, I believe the directors and officers should cheerfully give full and free access to the representative of Rogers Brown & Co to inspect the property and to verify any statements setting out the financial condition of the corporation -

As Father & I are both going to Virginia, to be gone for 10 days or more, it will be necessary for you to show the property and condition of the corporation to the representative of Rogers Brown & Co and this we trust you will do. Yours truly: E. C. Means

March 15th 99

F. A. Hyne Ey Agent
Covington Ky
Dear Sir:

Yours 14th inst at hand enclosing check for Fifteen 00 Dollars
Yourreport collections

E. Mullins	$5.00	
F. A. Hyne	10.00	
cr " balance	1.82	$19.82
Credits		
Check Hyne	$15.00	
Bill "	1.72	
Commission "	1.50	
Bill Hanvaring #169	1.30	$19.82

With changes made at #302 Main Street such as you propose We should have $12.00 per month rent for it -

Yours truly;
E. C. Means Agt
for Margaret A. Means

Mar 15th 99

Statement of Rents as reported to Mar 14th 99

Due from	Hynes Feb 28th 1899		$59.16
	Mar rent		15.00
			74.16
Credit	Mar 14th		11.82
Balance due from	Hynes Mar 31st 99		$ 62.34
J. P. Williams	Balance due	Feb 8th	$13.25
	Rent	" Mar 8	5.00
	Balance	" " "	$18.25
G. F. Mullins	Rent due	Mar 12th	$8.00 Paid

Hynes – you should try to reduce the amount due from yourself which now amounts to four months rent –

Mar 16th 99

Dear Aunt Margaret:

To day Father and I are going to Hot Springs Va for a visit and to take the baths- It is possible Mr. Frank Lyman will meet us there-

Mrs. Mauer was at the house a few days ago and reports that improvements have been made at the Lampton property as you directed. I have paid the Carpenters bills and will do the same for the others when presented- Mrs. Mauer stated that Tobe had employed a man to clean up the yard-

Quite a good deal of excitement has resulted from the rumors about options on the A.C.& J. Ry. among the citizens here-

We have given options to Rogers Brown & Co upon a controlling interest, with provision that all stockholders may sell at same price, in the A.C.& J. Ry. Co., Means, Kyle & Co and Means & Russell Bon Co. The A.C.& J. Ry Co stock $50 shares at par or $50= per share Means, Kyle & Co at par or $1000= per share

#2

and Means & Russell Iron Co at $0400- per share.
I gave options on your stock in the A. C & I
and Means, Kyle & Co- for 90 days- from Mar 7th.
The parties have to purchase the Estates stock
in the Means & Russell Iron Co if they elect to
purchase the Estates, yours and Fathers' stock in
Means Kyle & Co and vice versa.

It will be quite a pleasant surprise if we
succeed to getting the prices asked in the above
companies and the committee sell the Stanton Iron
Works stock. If such should occur your only
son interest will be in the Law Mon Co.

I have kept Mrs. Lampton's Room & Nurse accounts
at the hospital paid. and asked for laundry
bill. Reports from her are favorable-

The boom in iron continues, no one knows
how long it will last. we hope for several
months longer-

With regards to Miss Molly and love for yourself

Your affectionate nephew:

E. C. Means

I join in thanks with Ruby for the salt cellars-

Mar 29th 99

Rev. H. C. Wrakley
Cor Sec Christ Hospital
Cincinnati O

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find check on the Citizens Nat'l Bank Cincinnati, for the sum of Seventy ($70) Dollars in payment for Room and Nurse two weeks for Mrs. M. A. Lampton

Please receipt for same to Miss Margaret A. Means in my care

Yours truly:
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Mar 30th 9

D. B. Meacham Esq
Cincinnati O
Dear Sir:

Yours 23d inst to Mr C. W. Means has been referred to me. In reply thereto beg to state, that I shall, in the event of new interests becoming owners of the Ashland Coal & Iron Ry Co, be pleased to offer them my services under such terms and conditions as may be mutually agreeable.

I believe my father, John Means and myself would be willing to become interested in the new company and take some of the new securities if we felt assured the conditions were as you state. That is, the securities were without watering and we would be placed on the "ground floor" in the same manner as the underwriters or the most favored in the deal. We would not want to be parties to a wrecking scheme or be prohibited from selling out with the underwriters. I think you understand what I mean concerning Fathers past business history and his fairness in all things.

#2 D. B. M.

From approaches which have been made to secure consolidations with another enterprise where Father & I are interested, & find that certain parties connected with that plan are also connected with this one. Under the circumstances, I believe you can assume as the same conditions which from present appearances will be offered there.

Mr Charles W. Means is not interested in the other negotiations, he is not aware of them and I prefer that no reference thereto be made to him.

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.
E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT
ROBERT PEEBLES, SECRETARY AND TREASURER

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.
(INCORPORATED.)

Mr. F. B. Kehoe Trustee
Portsmouth
O

Ashland, Ky., Mar 30th 1899
In reply to yours of 21st inst

Dear Sir: Your letter inclosing certificate of stock in name of Margaret A. Means and check for Dividend $55.00 came while I was away from home. Herewith I return you Trustees receipt as requested.

Yours truly:
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Mar 31st 99

Gaggin Gaur & Co Texas
Cincinnati O

Dear Sir:

Your favor 30th at hand.
I am surprised that the Merchants Natl Bank does not follow the terms of the advertisement in the Commercial Tribune. Which I remember stated the bonds would be payable at the Merchants Natl until April 4th and after that date only in New York.
Under the circumstances I believe it proper that the Merchants should be tendered the bonds under the terms of the advertisement. If after wiring for instructions they decline to pay the bonds, you can accept New York Exchange and if you must be cannot get par for the Exchange, send the drafts to me and I can get Cincinnati Exchange for it here at par. It is possible that the First or the Citizens Natl would collect for you without charge.

Yours truly
E. C. Means

Mar 31st 99

Baggaw Gaus Esq- Journal
Cincinnati O

Dear Sir.

The writer has been away from home 10 days after an illness of two weeks and under the circumstances was not fully acquainted, as matters progressed, with the movements of Rogers, Brown & Co under the options C. W Sears informs me that the experts out here, Messrs Baldwin & Fulton, made no final expressions of their opinions of the values of the various properties- but were better pleased with this Company than the Stanton and Belfont. I am not surprised at their expressions as it was probably true considering the prices asked for the different properties, and they also might wish to hide their eagerness to secure the controlling interest in the Steel Co. However I believe the committees should be willing to accept a reasonable offer on bona fide negotiations.

Yours truly E. C. Evans

April 1st 99

D. B. Meachem Esq
Cincinnati O
Dear Sir:

Replying to your inquiry relative to the Victoria Fce at Goshen Va; would state that the furnace has been idle for several years and, I am told, is in need of very considerable repairs. It is presumable the same is true of its railroad and equipment.

Ten or eleven years ago I visited their mines in company with Capt Henry Merry and at that time we were not favorably impressed either with quality or quantity of the ore. The percentage of manganese in the ore was not favorable to using the ore alone in the furnace.

The new mine, opened by Mr. Ferguson in 1895 near Covington Va for Messrs Thomas, Turney Etc has not been operated to any extent. It is now idle after producing about 3000 tons of ore, although the Low Moor people thought they had bought 10.000 tons from them and would have been pleased to have it.

#2 D. B. M.

At present there appears to be a shortage of coke on the line of the C&O Ry and prices have been advanced 30¢ per ton for New River coke.
We had considerable difficulty in securing a supply of coke for the Covington furnace and delayed blowing in at least a month on that account. To date have had to use Kanawha & Austed coke.
Under the circumstances the Low Moor Co will add to its plant an additional number of ovens.
For this season, I do not know where any additional ore could be obtained on line of C&O that could not be taken readily by furnaces already in operation.
The L. M. Co never found any reason for wanting the Victoria Fee either to control ore lands or to control opposition while every attempt to operate has proven a losing venture.

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

This for your private information as coming from me.

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.
E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.
ROBERT PEEBLES, SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED.)
Ashland, Ky., April 1st 1899
In reply to yours of

Gazzam Gano Esq
Cincinnati
O

Dear Sir:

My sister Mrs L. H. Maynard writes me that she has not received the Trust Co's receipt for her 8 shares Norton Iron Works Stock. This was sent in while I was ill. Will you kindly send me a receipt for her shares.

It occurs to me that the face of the Eureka Bonds may show that they are payable at the Merchants Bank.

Yours truly, E. C. Means

April 1st. 1899

Mr. Gazzam Gano,

Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Sir:-

Here-with I inclose certificate #58 for four (4) shares Norton Iron Works stock in name of Miss Jennie M. Clarke.

Some time since I gave to Mr. Adams the signed authority to the Trustees and he promised to hand same to you-At that time I supposed Miss Clarke had sent the certificate to you. Kindly acknowledge receipt.

The Rod Mill begins operation next week-All are agreed that it is a splendid mill.

Yours truly:-

E. C. Means

April 1st. 1899

Mr. C. C. Clarke,

Ironton, Ohio.

Dear Sir:-

Your letter of March 31st. received with certificate of stock for four (4) shares Norton Iron Works in name of Miss Jennie Clarke-Same has been sent to Mr. Gano at The Central Trust & Safe Deposit Co. Cincinnati, O.

Yours truly:-

E. C. Wetmore

April 3d 99

Rabeur Healing Springs Co

Healing Springs

Bath Co. Va

Gentlemen:

Please ship me one 5 gal demijohn of your Healing Springs water which has been recommended to me by Dr Henry S. Pole-

Yours truly:

E. C. Wetmore

April 3rd 99

[illegible] Clarke,
[illegible]ton, Ohio.

Mrs. S. J. McChesney
#46 West 21st Street
New York

My dear Madam:

Enclosed please find draft of the Ashland Natl Bank on the Natl City Bank for the sum of One hundred and sixty eight ($168) Dollars payable to your order. This on account of Miss Margaret A. Means for her rooms & board Four weeks @ $42= per week from April 4th to May 2nd 1899—

Kindly acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours respectfully:

E. C. Means Agent

for Margaret A. Means

April 3d 99

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Your letter of Mar 30th received - Was pleased to hear from you - I learn that Mrs. Lampton returned home last Friday but have not heard how she is -

I have paid Hackworths bill for papering and painting and still have Prestons bill to pay for you. "One has to go away from home to hear the news" is an old saying, and in the case of Jake's remarks about Tom Adams it fits - I had heard nothing in connection with it but if I find there are remarks in circulation I shall take pleasure in contradicting them - I am not familiar with the details of Tom's purchase of the Stanton stock but I have no doubt that he paid the full market value at the time and that it was a good sale under the circumstances -

There is nothing new to write about Charley's efforts to aid us in selling out our iron interests except Charley's information that he believes Means, Lyle & Co will be sold at the price asked for it -

#2 O.A.M.

Under the arrangement for the Electric Light Co to purchase the controll of the Street Ry Co I have arranged to get your share 6% bonds $5,000 of the Street Ry bonds and $10.000 of the Electric Light Co bonds. The Street Ry bonds are part of an issue of $50,000 first mortgage and the Electric Light bonds are part of an issue of $20.000 first mortgage. I believe both to be good bonds and I expect to buy for myself some of the Street Ry bonds. I already have some of Electric Light bonds. Your Excelsa Gas Co bonds will be paid today or this week at $15,000; and $10.000 of that will be used to buy the Electric Light bonds. The money you have loaned to the Street Ry will pay for these bonds.

Ruby has been ill with malaria but is now up and going again. H.E. is well and so am I. With regards to Miss Molly and love for yourself

Yours affectionately;

E.C. Means

April 5th 99

My dear Mr. Lyman:

From my cousin Charley Means I learn that the bankers Ladenburg, Thalman & Co requested Mr. Fulton to visit this region in connection with the examination of our iron properties now under option to Rogers Brown & Co.

I am not sure that Moore & Schley are also interested but think it probable.

From recent letters that Charley has received from Mr. Meachem of the firm of R. B & Co; the plan will be to add to a consolidation of these plants a Lake Superior ore property and a coke property. The promoters will, if the deal is carried through, offer a choice of cash or securities of the new Co to the local parties. The new securities will be so based as to have a fair return in dividends from the start. Some of the local parties have been asked whether they would consent to become Directors in the new company, myself among the others. This I will agree to, provided the plan meets Father's approval and there is

#2 2.2.

a showing made that will make the securities attractive enough for Gates to consent to take some of the new securities in lieu of cash.

It is probable that the full plan will soon be laid before us, as I understand the experts will submit their reports to the bankers this week. I will write to you about it when it occurs.

The demand for pig iron at present prices appears to have slackened somewhat but we are hopeful that it will soon quicken without requiring reductions in prices.

Have felt much better since my vacation and trust you are well.

With regards.

Yours truly,

E. C. Means

April 5th 99

Dear Lily:

After receiving your letter of 30th ult I wrote for your receipt from the Trust Co and enclose it herewith. It will be well for you to carefully preserve it for future.

On the first inst. I collected for you $360 00 interest on your A. C. & I Ry Co note and deposited the check to your credit at the Ashland Natl Bank. It appears that it is 3 years interest on a note of $2000 00

There is nothing new from the prospective purchasers of the various iron industries of this region. The experts make their report this week.

Ruby & Bessie go to Cincinnati this afternoon shopping. Last night the Current Event club was entertained by the Misses Putnam. The gentlemen were invited and enjoyed the occasion.

With love to yourself, Mr Maynard and Aunt Mary.

Yours affectionate brother

E. C. Converse

April 5th 99

F. S. Hyne Esq Agent
Covington Ky

Dear Sir;

Replying to yours 2nd inst
You may make the repairs at #302 in order
to secure the tenant at $7.00 per month, as
I am anxious to keep the entire property
occupied -
Will the addition have any effect upon the
insurance policies?

Yours truly;
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.

E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.

ROBERT PEEBLES
SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED.)

Ashland, Ky., April 5th 1899

In reply to yours of

C. L. Clarke Esq
Boston
Mass

Dear Sir:

Herewith receipt of the Central Trust
and Safe Deposit Co for 4 shares stock Boston
Iron Works - Certificate #58 of this Jennie M. Clarke
No sale has as yet been made -

Yours truly;
E. C. Means ~~Supt~~

April 5th 99

P. N. Moore Esq
St. Louis Mo
Dear Sir:

A few years past you made an examination of the Potts Valley Ore fields of Virginia. If my recollection serves me right, you informed me that you found quite an extended ore vein of considerable size but could not advise the building of a railroad into the ore fields unless a tonnage of considerable amount was assured.

There are some movements, of a confidential nature at present, that make me anxious to have your opinion as early as possible upon the value of the ore field and the possibilities of its development for tonnage. In fact all the information that you can give me promptly.

Kindly treat the matter in confidence and let me hear from you at your earliest convenience.

Yours truly, E. C. Means

April 8th 99

My dear Mr. Lyman:

Yours 6th inst at hand. Herewith I enclose copy of letter to Mr. P. H. Moore which covers your request. I have mailed same to St. Louis Mo. with request on envelope "Please forward." When last writing to Col. Putnam, Mr. Moore was in Virginia City, Mont.

I am treating Low Moor matters as entirely separate from matters here, consulting only with Father about them. At the same time trying to keep you posted as to matters here, as the options have already been given, and your having full information will not affect them but may prove of value to L. M. interests.

Mr. Meachem's last request was for 10 days additional time which will extend the options until 17th inst. This I believe will be granted.

I can arrange to send our mine foreman to Bear River to examine the Royal property if you desire it. No 2 Foundry was sold by Means Kyle & Co Hanging Rock at $14.50 f.o.b. furnace this week. The Rod Mill has

#2 72.

been tested and is an excellent mill. Some trouble existed in getting main engine to run coal and the heating furnace needs slight improvement. Will have mill in full operation next week. It will prove valuable as a coal customer to this company.

Will endeavor to be prepared to answer your summons for a conference, promptly.

Should be pleased to learn whether you have succeeded in getting better coke for Covington Iron

With regards

Yours truly:

E. C. Means

April 11th 99

My dear Mr Lyman:

Herewith letter from Mr. P.M. Moore. Kindly note his letter and advise me whether I shall take the matter to Mr. Ingalls or leave that to you.

Mr Mc " I am sure the owners of the property would be under no obligations to me for speaking "freely" - means, I judge, that his report was not a favorable one -

If you need the authority of the President to call the stockholders meeting, you will please consider that I request the Secretary to call it -

The bankers, considering the purchase of the iron business hereabouts, have been busy, on account of the flurry in New York market for industrials, with other matters and our affair is resting -

I expect to go to Cincinnati Saturday and will see Mr. Meacham, when I hope to get some definite idea of the plan he is working out -

Tomorrow I go to Portsmouth O to attend meeting of Fire Brick Manufacturers - Yours truly: E. C. Evans

Pres

April 11th 99

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Your letter 10th inst enclosing bill of Dr Jos Eichberg received. Today I send him your check for full amount $360 as requested— I had supposed from the envelope that it was a letter to you from some lady freind and forwarded it to you without opening it. Had been expecting his bill and was ready to send check at any time.

Tomorrow Mr. Leffingwell and I are going to Portsmouth to meet the fire brick manufacturers. A move is on foot to consolidate all in this region into one company. We will attend the meeting and decide whether we wish to join or sell out to them, if the combination is effected. There is nothing new to report about the Means, Kyle & Co. A. B & L etc deal—

With regards to Miss Molly & love for yourself

Your affectionate nephew

E. C. Means

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.
E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.
ROBERT PEEBLES, SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED.)
Ashland, Ky., April 4th 1899
In reply to yours of 3rd inst 99

Dr Jos Eichberg
Cincinnati
O

Dear Sir:

Herewith find check of Miss Mary A. Means upon the Citizens State Bank of Cinti for Three Hundred and Sixty Dollars as per your bill of 3rd inst. Kindly acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours truly,
E. C. Means

DOUGLAS PUTAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBS, VICE-PRESIDENT.
E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.
ROBERT PEEBLES, SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED.)
Ashland, Ky., April 4th 1899
In reply to yours of

E. S. Wilson Esq
Boston
O

Dear Sir. Your bill, as requested, received. Miss Means told me that she paid you until Feb 1st 99 but that the date on wrapper of paper sent to her had never been changed from Feb 1st 98. Will you kindly look this up to see if there might be some error in the account.

Yours truly, E. C. Means

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.
E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.
ROBERT PEEBLES,
SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

OFFICE OF

Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,

(INCORPORATED.)

Ashland, Ky., April 18 1899

In reply to yours of

Rubino Healing Spring Co
Healing Springs
Va

Gentlemen:

Enclosed find draft Ashland Nat'l Bank upon The National City Bank Newyork for Two 25 Dollars in payment your bill of March

Yours truly:

E. C. Means

April 22nd 99

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Herewith, as per your request, I enclose draft of Ashland National Bank upon the National City Bank for One thousand ($1000) Dollars.

The Expenses at the Christ Hospital paid by your check by me were for Mrs Lampton as follows:

1899 Feby	27	—	$39
Mar	5	—	$39
	14	—	$39
	29	—	$78 Total $195.00

To this add cash paid by you 39.00 $234.00

Prices obtained for pig iron vary according to grade and quality an average would be

Hanging Rock	#2 X	$14.50 per ton
Low Moor	#2 X	13.00 " "
Ashland	#2 X.S.	15.00 " "

The above would be for past month and are about the highest obtained - Prices are so high that it is hardly probable they will be maintained for any great length of time unless cost for labor is advanced. It looks as if the companies should

#2

make handsome profits this year-
Yesterday we gave an option on the Clinton Fire Brick Works at a figure which should net us $2= for $1= if accepted- However I do not have any faith it will lead to a purchase and think the option was taken for speculation
Mr. Meacham writes that he has not yet sold our iron properties but will come here soon and tell about the progress he is making-
Charley Means is sick in bed with a bad cold which came near being pneumonia- He can account for it only from walking too much on Wednesday- a warm day-
I am feeling very well and am out of doors a great deal these spring days- I shall give H. E. the message about the cats- She has been feeding the ants with corn bread-
With regards to Miss Molly and love to yourself
Your affectionate nephew:
E. C. Means

April 22nd 99

Mr. Gazzam Gaur Treas
Cincinnati O

Dear Sir:

Please send me a pass book in name of John Means showing his credit. Miss Means will want to use $10.000- soon. If it is not convenient to have such a large amount checked out without notice, will you kindly advise me, so that I can inform Father. I managed to turn the Street Ry Trusteeship back to you again. Our people will be largely interested in the new bonds and will have a control of the stock. The first mortgage bonds $50.000- I consider a good investment. We are paying par for them without any commission.

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

May 1st 99

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Replying to yours 24th inst
After receipt of your letter I called upon Mr. Kanns, the livery man and arranged with him to take Mrs. Lampton out driving 3 times per week for four weeks. He agreeing to send a surrey so that Aunt could take Sadie with her.

Charley is up again and going about the house Liggie came Thursday and we were all pleased to see her.

Today the bonds of the Street Ry Co $5000- and of the Electric Light Co $10.000- were bought for your account - The Street Ry Co paying the rate held by you - Hereafter the controlling interest in the Street Ry Co will be owned by the Electric Light Co - W.B. Seaton and I being directors in the latter company, we believe the bonds of both companies will be satisfactory investments.

With regards to Miss Molly & love to yourself

Your affectionate nephew

E. C. Means

May 2nd 99

Mrs. S. J. McChesney
146 West 21st Street
New York

My dear Madam:

Enclosed please find draft of the Midland Nat'l Bank on the Nat'l City Bank for the sum of Two Hundred and Ten ($210=) Dollars payable to your order.

This on account of Miss Margaret A. Means for her rooms & board. Five (5) weeks @ $42= per week from May 2nd to June 6th 1899

Kindly acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours respectfully:
E. C. Means Agt
for Margaret A. Means

May 10th 99

My dear Mr Lyman:

Your letter of inst & mine today duly received -

While we could have been present either 22nd or 24th, we preferred the 22nd as it will enable us to spend Sunday at Low Moor -

I note that your negotiations with Mr Carter are not progressing rapidly - The same may be said about our negotiations with Rogers, Brown & Co Mr. Meacham was here last week with a new form for a 60 days option, and a schedule giving proposed basis for a new company - Paying cash and preferred stock for the present companies -

With the exception of the Stanton Iron Works and the Bellport Iron Works of Stanton, all here declined to give options on the terms proposed, but held for cash. The underwriters were to have 100% preferred 7% and 100% common stock for the amount paid by them.

Mr. Meacham has referred the matter to the New York bankers for their further consideration.

Was very sorry to learn of the death of your father -

With regards - Yours truly E. C. Means

May 10th 99

F. A. Hyne Agent
Covington Ky

Dear Sir:

Yours 8th inst recived-
You report collections as follow:

J. P. Williams		$5.25	
G. S. Mullins		5.00	
Beach		2.00	
F. A. Hyne	34.14	$52.39	
Commission		5.23	$57.62

You report payments and bills paid as follow.

H. Roethen	Wall paper & hanging	$5.17	
F. A. Hyne	Painting & Carpenter work	15.00	
Thos Mannering	Tin work on roof	5.55	
F. M. Lucas Co	Lumber	14.29	
Jos Humpert	Lumber	9.35	$52.39
Hyne Commission			5.23
			$57.62

Kindly advise me what the expense will be to repair #30 el Main St-

Yours truly
E. C. Means Agent

Statement of Rents as Reported to May 8th 99

Due from S. A. Hyne Mar 31st 99 - $62.34

April & May Rent 30.00

92.34

#300 Credit May 8th 39.37

Balance due May 31st 99 $52.97

#169 G. T. Mullins Due April 12th $8.00 Paid

#302 Wellington Begun May 1st @ $12.00 per month

#304 J. P. Williams Due Mar 8th $18.25

Credit May 8th 8.00

Balance $10.00

When did Williams move out -

Beach for Storage $2.00

Williams see p 605

May 16th 99

Dear Aunt Margaret:

A few days ago I sent you the Store account of Mrs. Lampton as prepared by our Mr. Foster. I have given your check in payment. I intended writing to you at the same time but had callers preventing doing so.

Today I send you a proxy for the Law Moor meeting which please sign and send to Law. Moor. Father and I will leave here for Pa. Saturday night and spend Sunday & Monday there.

Charley & Lizzie left yesterday for Atlantic City Dr Eichberg advised Charley to go there for two weeks in order to get the sea air. He told Charley that his recovery from his pleuro-pneumonia would be much more rapid there than here.

Tomorrow is the date for annual meeting of this company. Mr. Bailey & Mr. John G. Peebles are here for it.

Ruby & H. E. are going to Cliffside Park this afternoon. The Park looks very pretty with its buildings freshly painted.

With regards to Miss Mally and love for yourself. Your affectionate nephew

E. C. Means

May 16th 99

F. A. Hyne Esq Agent
Lexington Ky

Dear Sir:

Yours 12th inst received. If the recommendations I made to you did not exterminate the bugs please take such measures as you deem necessary to get rid of them.

Also repair No 304 Main Street so that it may be rented and bring in some money.

Keep in mind that taxes will soon be due.

Yours truly:

E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret S. Means

May 17th. 1899

Mr. Gazzam Gano,

Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Sir:-

Yours of the 16th. with corrected receipt for Mrs. Maynard received, for which I thank you.

I am inclined to believe the Belfont people are keeping their price too high for what they have to offer, and believe the Norton Committee will be safe in pulling away from them if nothing is accomplished before June 1st. If Mr. Meacham should allow the option to lapse, I should favor holding off for a short time and see if some other possible customer did not appear.

Of course, any outright offer should be considered, if in sufficient amount. The purchase of plants is still going on, and we are not yet in position to be frozen out.

Yours truly,

E. C. MEANS, Superintendent

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, President
JOHN G. PEEBLES, Vice-President

ROBERT PEEBLES
Secretary and Treasurer

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.
(INCORPORATED)
Ashland, Ky., May 17 1899
In reply to yours of

F. A. Idyne Esq Agent
Covington
Ky

Dear Sir: Miss Means has written me:
"Tell the agent at Covington, after removing
"wall paper, to close the rooms air tight and
"burn a sulphur candle in each room. This
"can be done by placing the candle in a coal
"hod, empty. In a few days burn another
"sulphur candle and see that the next tenant
"does not bring vermin into his —

Yours: E. C. Means

May 19th 99

Gazzam Gaus Esq
Cincinnati O

Dear Sir:

Yesterday we had a call from Mr. J. C. Clutts of Millaton Ohio, President of the Millaton Iron & Steel Company-
Mr. Clutts owns 2/3 of the above Company and the company has 6 furnaces, 2 of which are in operation. The story was about as follows: P. B. Armstrong & Co., promoters of NewYork; references the Hanover Natl Bank and Harvey Fisk & Co. NewYork, said to be able to put through very large combinations when the references were looked up by a committee of furnace owners; seek to make a combination of the non-bessemer pig iron producers of the South, Ohio, Penn. & NewYork, Lakeland being considered as in Southern Ohio territory-
A meeting of a number of furnace owners was held in Pittsburgh and it was decided to go in with Armstrong, and instead of allowing him to select the properties, that the committee should make

G. G. #2

the selection. Mr. Clutts is one of that committee. The reason for the selection of the committee being that a large number of the owners would prefer to join a combination and keep in the business they have spent their lives in learning.

All selling to the combination after prices are agreed upon, can take in payment of their properties either all cash or not to exceed 65% in stock and balance cash at the sellers option. For the stock taken in lieu of cash an equal amount of preferred stock and common stock. No seller can take all stock. The stock to be preferred (5 or 6% not determined) is to be issued for ~~value~~ accepted value of plants & working capital plus 10% for commission and costs of organization. An equal amount of common stock plus 20% for promotion. It is estimated that $30.000,000 Preferred will be issued. The plants which are expected to go in are The Clinton Iron & Steel Co, Pittsburgh. M. A. Hanna & Co's furnaces Mahll, Clere, Buffalo & Puxatown, Girard Iron Co, Speerman, 2 Latonia, Cherry Valley, 3 Wellston, 2 Hubbard

D. G. #3

and the furnaces of the Hanging Rock region, Lawrence Belfont, Kelly, Norton, Means Kyle & Co, and A. C. & I. Practically a clean up of all Northern competitors, Ore and coke supplies to be secured and men are now in ore and coal regions getting options.

As Mr. Clutts' company want to take half cash and half stock, he is anxious to get the furnaces of this region into the combination on a fair basis, that is in comparison with his own and others, as well as to remove competition.

He thought he could get 60 day options subject to previous sale on present outstanding options. He does not want to interfere with Meachem's plans.

For my own part I feel that there is more probability of disposing of our properties through his promoters owing to the larger size of the deal. At the same time I believe that the committee of furnacemen who are controlling the matter will prevent any sale at exorbitant prices. In our cases furnaces, mills, steel plant, etc lands & railroads would be taken same as in Meachem's deal.

Yours truly: E. C. Means

May 25th. 1899

Mrs. S. M. Boggess,

Alva, Oklahoma, Ter.

My Dear Madam:-

Yours of the 15th. at hand. Owing to absence in Virginia a reply has been delayed.

In reference to the Notes that I held, secured by a mortgage on lot purchased by Mr. M. L. Butler, my recollection is that the last two Notes were sold to Mr. Thos. Boggess Jr. and the mortgage given to him.

If you will write to him, I have no doubt, he will inform you just how much is due him on the Notes-There is probably four or five years interest due upon the two notes which were for $100.00 each.

The action of Mr. William Boggess in connection with the Post Office management was a source of great regret on the part of all his friends, who, are utterly unaware of his reasons for so doing.

Yours truly:-

E. A. Means

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.

E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.

ROBERT PEEBLES,
SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

OFFICE OF

Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,

(INCORPORATED.)

Ashland, Ky., May 2nd 1899

In reply to yours of 25th inst

Frank Lyman Esq Treas
L. M. R. R. Co of Va
New York

Dear Sir: Herewith I return with signature certificate #200 in name of C. R. Conning - Kindly send me check for $35.00 in payment of Director fees for 7 May meetings at Louisville and all trips made on account of Company's business since last settlement -

Have you made enquiry about P. B. Armstrong & Co #45 Broadway -

Yours E. C. Means

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.

E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.

ROBERT PEEBLES,
SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

OFFICE OF

Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,

(INCORPORATED.)

Ashland, Ky., June 1st 1899

In reply to yours of

E. S. Wilson Esq
Editor, Stanton Register
Stanton Va

Dear Sir:

Have you looked up the matter of Miss Margaret A. Means subscription. Whether she owes for one year or two?. I wish to pay her account and would be pleased to know whether she was mistaken about only owing for one year.

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

June 1st 99

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Charley and Lizzie reached home Tuesday afternoon unexpectedly. The law suit in the Supreme Court is not yet decided and may not be until next winter. When the argument was made last January but Eight judges heard the case, Justice Brewer being in Paris, France, these eight judges have announced that they cannot agree, but upon our request they have granted 60 days time for a motion for a new hearing and allowed us to file a new brief. If the case is heard again it will be before a full court of nine judges and a decision will be rendered, but if no rehearing is granted we will have lost the case. It is probable that the new hearing will be allowed and the matter will rest with Justice Brewer to make 5 for or against. Of course it is a great disappointment not to have won the case but we still have one more chance

#2 M.A.M.

There is nothing new about the options - It is the general opinion here, that nothing will be done in making purchases - The floating of the industrial combinations is becoming more difficult - Under the circumstances we will remain in the iron business for some time yet.

At the Law Moor meeting it was decided to acquire more ore lands and some coal lands also to issue some 6% bonds, some of which I expect to buy for you when they are offered for sale - I consider that with the new land purchases Law Moor will be our best iron investment.

At present the iron business is flourishing and prospects are favorable for the entire year. Steamer most companies instead of dividing their earnings will add to their properties so as to strengthen their positions for the future -

Ruby is well, H.E. has some malaria and I have an eruption on my hands which I believe to be ivy poisoning - possibly straw berry poisoning Trusting that you are well and with love

Your affectionate nephew E. C. Mann

June 6th 99

Mrs. S. J. McChesney
46 West 21st St New York

My dear Madam:

Herewith I beg to endose a draft for One Hundred and sixty eight ($168.00) Dollars payable to your order.

This on account of Miss Margaret K. Means for her rooms & board - Four weeks @ $42.00 per week from June 6th to July 4th 1899.

Kindly acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours respectfully:

E. C. Means Agent

for Margaret K. Means

June 8th. 1[illegible]

Mr. W. J. Cram,

[illegible], Ohio.

Dear Sir:-

Replying to yours of the 8th. inst. relative to Mrs. Johnson's stock in the Norton Iron Works, I believe about [illegible] % of the total stock of the Norton Iron Works is now in the hands of Messrs. Adams, Cams and Schmidt to sell at the best price obtainable, but not at less than $100.00 per share.

I was under the impression that Mrs. Johnson had put her stock with the same parties for sale.

My own stock is with the 80 % above mentioned, but I prefer not to make Mrs. Johnson any offer for her stock.

The only purchases made recently have been by Mr. W. B. Seaton of this place at $50.00 per share.

Yours truly,-

E. C. Means

June 8th. 1899

Mr. Gazzam Gano,

Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Sir:—

Last Saturday Mr. W. R. Walker formerly Genl. Mgr. of Illinois Steel Co. put in his appearance at Ashland, going first to the Steel Plant and Rod Mill making an inspection before going to see Mr. Kelly. On Sunday he made an inspection of the A. C. & I. Furnaces and Coke ovens- On Monday he called at the A. C. & I. office and introduced himself and announced that he was visiting this region to see the Iron and Steel prospects-Monday afternoon he visited the property of the Norton Iron Works-Tuesday morning he drove to Ironton and Hanging Rock, looking at the plants there-Tuesday afternoon he made a second examination of our Coal Washer and Coke ovens-Wednesday I took him to the end of our Rail-Road and returned to Ashland. He expected to visit our Mines, but missed the train on Tuesday morning. He said he was going direct from here to Chicago. He must have left with an equal or better idea of the general situation here than did Mr. Meachems experts.

I expect you will have either a renewal of proposition from Mr. Meachem

June 8

#2

or from a new source.

While it is possible Mr. Walker was only representing himself, I believe otherwise, and therefore wish you to know that the situation here is one which is attracting attention, and that other parties may be after your plants.

For the present, I believe you would do well to show indifference to Mr. Meachem, unless you can get a good round price for your property, say at least $200.00 per share cash.

Steel is advancing rapidly, and as yet the Rod Mill has not been felt in the market, but during the next three months, it will be felt, and the Steel and Wire interests will want control here.

The July statement of the Steel Co. will be a favorable one, and with a supply of iron assured for the next twelve months, the profits for the year should be large.

Yours truly:-

E. C. Means

June 16th 99

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Your letter 14th at hand this morning- As per request, herewith please find draft for One Thousand ($1000.00) Dollars payable to your order-

Today at breakfast time the thermometer shows 54° and a cool breeze direct out of the South- It is quite a relief from the sultry weather of past week.

The options on the iron properties have all expired. No sales under any of them have been effected.

Tonight Ruby and her assistants present the "Old Maids Convention" at the Opera House, for the benefit of the Baptist Church-

Business is still booming and prices for iron are very high and the iron is sold as fast as made. The Fire Brick Works also have all they can do.

The ivy poison only lasted one week and the Coal Washer is again absorbing my attention while we are endeavoring to make some improvements.

Lizzie & Charley have gone South- With Love

Your affectionate nephew

E. C. Means

June 17th. 1896

Mr. E. B. Willard,

Hanging Rock, Ohio.

Dear Sir:-

Here-with I return letter of Rogers, Brown & Co. of 13th. inst. Any one can sell iron on present market, and I do not believe any change of Agency should be made, unless in line with Companies in which we are interested, and at present Rogers, Brown & Co. are not selling iron for any Furnace interest with which we are connected.

~~They are,~~ however, representing large combinations, which have no favors to offer us.

There is more Mill Cinder being made than usual, and it will accumulate in Rolling Mill yards if Furnaces take in only present requirements.

I notice Commercial Tribune reports #1 Foundry at $18.50 Pittsburgh, and believe you should advance price to $18.00 at Furnace if you have not already done so.

Yours truly:-

E. C. Means

June 19th 99

Gazzam Gaus Esq
Cincinnati O

Dear Sir:

Mr. Jabiez L. Anderson of Ironton O came here this morning and stated that he would like to secure options for 60 days upon the Iron & Steel properties here and at Ironton. Said he thought they could be sold to the Union Steel and Chain Co, a corporation of $60.000.000 capital.

I told him about the Ironton Furnaceship and referred him to the trustees and to Mr Robt Peddle.

Since noon, I have learned that Mr. E. L. Harper has been in Ironton and presume it was at his suggestion that Mr. Anderson came to see us.

It is not probable that the A. C. & D. Ry people would give an option under the circumstances.

Herewith I send copy of article in Iron Age of 15th inst. about the Union Steel & Chain Co.

A St Louis manufacturer found the Ashland Rods to be excellent for making chains

Yours truly E. C. Means

June 28th 99

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Another party has paid a bonus to secure an option on the Portsmouth Gas Co stock - I enclose herewith a letter from the directors of the company, which I believe you had better sign and return to me. Sign at the bottom of the page -

There will be issued shortly a letter to the stockholders and bond holders of the S.C.R.R. Ry Co notifying them of the new issue of bonds to take up the old issue - The new bonds will bear 5% interest instead of 7% as the old did. Any bonds not taken by the former holders have been asked for by a New York Trust Co - I believe it will be well for you to accept the new ones for your old ones, as I do not perceive where you can do better with the money - and it is probable that the company will make enough money the next nine months to pay its notes of which you have $30.000 - which will have to be invested elsewhere - You hold both notes and bonds

#2 M. A. M.

Father has some N. C. & I. Ry bonds but he is not certain whether he will exchange. He says he cannot afford to pay the Kentucky taxes on them If he does not want them ($12.000) and you do it is probable that he would let you have them.

There is some prospect of the Electric Light Co being sold and if it is, I have thought best to sell the bonds, $10.000, that I bought for you May 1st, as a sale would take Will Seaton and myself out of the board of directors.

Ruby left for Frankfort today to be gone until the 1st of the month. Aunt Mary & Hildreth are at Healing Springs. Father is keeping well and in good spirits. Last night he walked up with me to see the new Rod Mill for the first time.

With love to yourself and kindest regards to Miss Sally

Your affectionate nephew:

E. C. Breaux

June 30th. 1899

Mr. T. M. Adams,

Beaver Falls, Penna.

Dear Mr. Adams:-

I have yours of the 29th. inst.

You advance a good idea, and I trust you have sent a copy to Mr. Maxwell. In brief for rehearing, would it not be well to call attention to the Kentucky Statutes and argue that as the Supreme Court is divided, then that decision should stand which is nearest in line with Kentucky laws for distribution of Estates-Certainly where such an able body as the Supreme Court cannot find that the Notes were advances under the Will, then the law of the State should be allowed to govern the case and not the Circuit Court of Appeals.

I understand the Attorneys meet July 7th. at Cincinnati.

Very truly yours:-

E. C. Means

June 30th. 1899

Mr. Jno. F. Winslow,

Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Sir:-

Yours of the 27th. inclosing draft of Low Moor mortgage, which I have shown to Father.

Here-with I return same with marks by Father indicating that he does not fully understand certain parts.

I have not calculated Low Moor costs and presume you are correct.

After keeping costs at Hanging Rock for periods of from 4 to 7 weeks, we found at the end of each year that taxes and expenses not on reports added 50 to 65 cents per ton to cost sheet.

I believe it nearly as much necessary to add to Low Moor reports.

The Mill Cinder used at Covington is increasing per-centage of yield-am in hopes the new coke ovens there will improve the work of Furnace.

Yours truly,

E. G. Thomas

July 3rd. 1899

Mr. Gazzam Gano,

Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Sir:-

Here-with I return check #3760 for $20.00, which please enter to my credit.

The circular letter of the Union Steel & Chain Co. has been received generally here, and has met with few or no replies.

Yours truly:-

E. C. Means

July 5th 99

Mrs S. J. McChesney
46 Mad 21st St. Newyork

My dear Madam:

Herewith please find draft for One hundred and sixty eight ($168=) Dollars payable to your order.

This in payment rooms & board of Miss Margaret A. Means, four weeks @ $42= per week, from July 4th to Aug 1st inclusive.

Kindly acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours respectfully:

E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

July 5th 99

Dear Aunt Margaret:

In reference to yours June 27th, it has been customary to make a deduction from August remittance to Mrs McChesney, the sum of Seventy ($70.00) Dollars, to cover summer absence of yourself. I presume this is the amount you refer to. Or shall I take out an additional amount for July? I have already sent her draft for July in payment to Aug 1st at full rates.

Yours 30th June enclosing power of attorney to Mr Kehoe as Trustee to sell Portsmouth Gas Stock came duly to hand.

Herewith I send you the A.C.& I. circular about the bonds. I filled out same for Thirty (30) Bonds for you to sign as indicated. I understand that you do not have to pay taxes on them in Newyork as we do here.

Father and I have talked over the advisability of your buying more than thirty (30) and while at present we do not know where you could

#2

get a better rate of interest, on as good a security, we are not certain that it is the best thing to do. There is so much money seeking investment, that it seems as if prices for first class securities are too high. At the same time, 5% may appear a high rate of interest for several years and we may regret that we did not get the S.C.&I bonds.

The Fourth passed off pleasantly here with speaking, singing & instrumental music at Central Park under direction of Mr. Condit. Clyffside Park drew a large crowd and the street cars collected $500 fares for the day.

A number of people here are now burning Natural Gas in their stores. We have not yet put it into our house, but no doubt in a short time every one will use it on account of its convenience and cleanliness.

We expect to go East about the 20th or 25th of the month to Asbury Park. With love

Yours affectionately,
E. C. Means

July 6th 99

F. B. Kehoe Esq
Portsmouth O

Dear Sir:

In response to the circular letter of June 26th 1899 sent out by the Directors of the Ft Portsmouth Gas and Electric Company - I herewith enclose certificate of stock No 65 for Fifty five (55) shares in name of Margaret A. Means together with authorization to you as Trustee to sell same.

Please acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours truly
E. C. Means
Attorney for Margaret A. Means

July 8th 99

F. A. Hyne Esq Agent
Covington Ky

Dear Sir:

Yours 7th at hand enclosing check for Fifteen ($15.00) Dollars—

Your report rents collected

Mr. Wellington	$24.00		
Mr. Mullins	16.00		
Mr. Link	8.00		
Mr. Hyne	15.00	63.00	
" Commission		6.30	$69.30
additional credit			1.95
			$71.25

You report payments:

June Tax City	$35.00		
Water Rental	3.50		
George Pratt Whitewasher	2.00		
Hyne Paper Hanging & Painting	9.45	49.95	
" Commission		6.30	
" Check		15.00	$71.25

You may make the repairs to #69 3rd St and to #302 Main St. Was sorry to hear of you & your wife being sick. Yours truly:

[illegible]

July 8th 99

Statement of Rents as Reported to July 7th 99

	Due from L. A. Hyne May 31st		$52.97
	June & July rent		30.00
#300			82.97
	Credit July 7th	15.00 6.30 1.95	23.25
	Balance due July 31st 1899 —		$59.72

C. T. Mullins — April 12th to June 12th 2 mos $16.00
Credit 16.00

#169 — June 12th to July 7th Unpaid $6.00
Moved out when?

#169 Mr. Link paid July 7th one month in advance $8.00

#302. Mr. Wellington May & June @ $12.00 $24.00 paid

#304. Can you get a tenant for these —

Some time ago I authorized you to fix up #302 and make it so people would live in it — Do not let tenants move out when a little paint & papering will keep them

July 1st 99

Tho. Garrigan Esq T.P.S. Col Ry
Huntington, W. Va

Dear Sir:

About the 20th of July a party from here are going East to begone a month. One of the party will be Mrs W. L. Rings, wife of the Prest of the Ash & Cattle'g Street Ry Co. my mother-in-law.

While I might have asked for a pass for her through my connection with this Company it occured to me, that your friendly relations with Mr Rings, in connection with Clyffside Park, makes you the proper party to determine whether it is proper to request a pass for her. If you so consider it, I shall be pleased if you secure her a pass good going by way of Washington and returning by either Washington or Fortress Monroe Going not earlier than July 20th, returning not later than Aug 22nd.

Yours truly: E. C. Moreau Supt

Aug 22nd 99

A. T. Johnson Esq
Portsmouth O

Dear Sir:

I returned home from the East on 19th inst. Keeping in mind my conversation with you relative to the purchase of $8.000 par value of Clinton Fire Brick Works stock, I have negotiated with Capt Leffingwell for the purchase of that amount from him at par or $8.000 net, subject to the sale to the Combination on or prior to Sept 15th prox.

I have not disclosed to him the name of party, as you requested-

As a sale to the combination at the price we put upon the plant would not double the amount to Capt Leffingwell, it is only natural such reservation should be made-

I shall be pleased to learn whether the above arrangement meets with your approval.

Yours truly
E. C. Means

Aug 25th 99

Dear Tom:

Herewith find option drawn by Judius L. Anderson for signatures of shareholders in the corporation of Means, Kyle & Co.

Mr Krauss was here yesterday with Anderson, and I agreed subject to the approval of yourself and Father to give an option on our holdings of the stock on the basis of $600.000 or 133⅓ for the par value of the stock.

Mr. Willard has expressed his willingness to sign an option on the above basis. And I believe all other shareholders will do the same.

If you approve kindly sign and return to me. I have written Father for his authority to sign for him. I will send it to Willard to get signatures of all stockholders.

The time is short for Krauss but I believe he may accomplish something.

Yours truly: C. C. Means

Aug 28th 99

My dear Mr Lyman:

Yours 25th at hand.

It will be convenient for me to go to Virginia for 6th Sept and if that date is agreed upon I shall arrange accordingly.

I have heard nothing from Mr. Sickles, the broker I called upon in New York.

Last week a Mr. Knauss from Columbus, O. was here seeking an option on our Hanging Rock property. As he acted very fair in connection with an option taken 2 years ago and made no general offering of the property I have advised our people to grant him one at $600.000.00 This is $100.000.00 higher than we would have taken 60 days ago. Option to be good until Oct. 2nd

He stated that if his parties bought the property he would be in position to handle other properties running up to Ten millions as his parties command great wealth. However I made no other prices for him.

Yours truly,

E. C. Means

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.

E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.

ROBERT PEEBLES,
SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED.)
Ashland, Ky., Aug 30th 1899
In reply to yours of

E. B. Millard Esq
Hanging Rock
Ohio

Dear Sir:

Herewith I enclose option in favor of Julius L. Anderson same to expire at noon Oct 2nd 1899—

Please give opportunity for all shareholders in Means Tyler Co to join in signing

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.

E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.

ROBERT PEEBLES,
SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED.)
Ashland, Ky., Aug 30th 1899
In reply to yours of

Julius L. Anderson Esq
Denton
O

Dear Sir:

With some changes in the option form as prepared by you, I today send it to Mr. Millard with signatures covering 3 1/2 shares. I wrote it to expire on Oct 2nd 1899 as the first is on Sunday— Mr. M. will get additional signatures before giving the option to you— Yours: E. C. Means—

Aug 30th 99

H.G. Merry Esq G.M.
Lord Moor Va

Dear Sir:

Monthly reports at hand today. It is quite disappointing to see the continued small tonnage from the furnaces. In comparing worke of Fee B

1899	Tonnage	Coke per ton iron	Ore	Lime
Mar	5337	1.10	2.32	.96
Apil	5160	1.11	2.30	.93
July	4339	1.26	2.32	1.08

Off hand the above would indicate that too much limestone is being used and that the slag must be different from that in Mar & Apil. I would suggest that you have sent into your office each day one slag analysis from each furnace and ascertain if the trouble lies in using too much limestone.

Yours truly:
E. C. Meane Pres.

Please return Enclosed—

Aug 31st 99

Mrs. L. J. McChesney
New York

My dear Madam:

Herewith please find draft of Ashland Natl Bank upon The National City Bank New York for the sum of $182.00 in payment of rooms & board of Miss Margaret A. Means from Aug 29th to October 3rd five weeks at $42.00 per week being $210.00 from which I have deducted $28.00 for summer absence.

Kindly acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours respectfully,
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.
E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.
ROBERT PEEBLES, SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED.)
Ashland, Ky., Aug 31st 1899
In reply to yours of 29th inst.

Thos A. Mack Esq
Cincinnati
O

Dear Sir:

Your check for Sixty ($60.00) Dollars to meet interest on note dated April 20th 1899 for four months received—

Yours truly,
John Means
By E. C. Means Attorney-fact

to wait
^

E. C. Means

Your wire at hand – Shall I go to Low Moor
or Covington? Will leave on No 2, 6th inst –

Please address reply
direct to writer.

E. C. Means

Sept 2nd 99

Jno F. Winslow Esq
Cincinnati O
My dear John:

Yours 1st inst

Yesterday I wrote Mr. Lyman that, unless further advised, I should leave here on No 2 Sixth inst for either Covington or Law Moor as he preferred for place of meeting-

Am finding my time well employed here and I would not want to be away more than two days-

Mr. Lyman writes me formally that if he can secure an offer of $150.00 per share for his Law Moor Stock with privelege of his present associates joining in sale that he shall accept same-

I dislike the idea of parting with the L.M. property even at that price but presume there is not much chance too either buy his interest or get a better figure in selling-

Yours truly:

E. C. Means

Sept 4th 99

E. B. Willard Esq Pres
Hanging Rock O.
Dear Sir:

Herewith I return proposition on Steel Stone for Hamilton Lee. In conversation with Mr. Adams we agreed that we prefer to let the matter lie over until Father's return and present option has expired - say a month from now, when if the option has expired without purchase we would like to have a meeting to reduce the capital stock one-ninth -

I leave 6th inst for Virginia to be away several days -

Yours truly,
E. C. Means

P.S. Ethan Lee has sold 1000 tons Bessemer @ $22 to 500 to Belfont & 500 to Norton for conversion to steel at Ash Steel Co

Sept 5th 99

F. A. Hyne Esq Agent
Covington Ky

Dear Sir:

Yours of 4th inst. at hand.
Please advise me how much it will cost for plumbing to put water into #302 Main St and how much the water rental will amount to. When we fixed up that house I thought the tenant was to stay for a year and now he has moved out in much less time.

Kindly send me the State & County Tax receipts and a statement of your collections and disbursements.

Yours truly:
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

E. C. Means

and taking in all the companies named

E. C. Treanor

Sept 12th 99

F. A. Hyne Esq Agent
Covington Ky

Dear Sir:

Yours 6th has not been answered because I have been away from home. If the tenant will come and stay in #302 Main St for a year I should be willing to put the water into the house but be sure and bind him to stay for a year and pay his rent promptly.
Kindly hurry the tax matters

Yours truly:
E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

other
↑

other
↑

E. C. Evans

Sept 13th 99

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Having been kept busy since my return from New Jersey and making one trip to Virginia, I have neglected writing to you longer than I should have done—

The Portsmouth Gas Stock has been sold at par under the last option and check for same has been received and placed to your credit.

An option has been given on the stock in Messrs Kyle & Co, again to Julius L. Anderson, to expire October 2nd Price $1.333.33⅓ per share. We signed for all the Means family. I doubt a sale being made, but, if it is not, we shall continue reducing the capital stock and now have $50.000 available for that purpose. The company is making money quite rapidly now, as indeed are all our iron properties.

Uncle George Hildreth is here on a short visit to us and we are very glad to entertain him. He is now about 87 years of age and is still quite strong and well. We stopped at Aunt Lamptons but no

one answered the door bell so he left his card.
Tom Adams has been here and at Brenton for
past ten days. He has bought the Lambert
Foundry & Machine shop at Brenton and the Geiger
& Powell building in Ashland- He has sold most
of his pig iron but not his Brenton stock.
The river has been low but there is now a
small swell from Pittsburgh down which will
let the packets run.
In order to dispose matters at the Clinton Fire
Brick Works I have arranged to find a purchaser
for most of Mr. Leffingwell's stock and will make
some changes in the management.
The matter of providing Mr. D.C. Geiger with a home
will be taken up when Father returns home.
Ruby & H.E. are well and join in love to you
and regards to Miss Molly.

Your affectionate nephew
E.C. Means

Your funds are accumulating in banks but all classes
of securities are so high priced that I hesitate to invest now.

Sept 18th 99

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Yours 15th at hand.
Herewith I enclose draft on New York bank for One thousand ($1000.00) Dollars as you request.

Mr. Frank Lyman came this morning on the early train and I am expecting him to step in the office any minute.

Charley was in to call last night and he kept us entertained with his account of the people that he met at Cranberry. He looks a great deal better than when he went away in the Spring.

Bess & Will were at Greenup yesterday, the 13th anniversary of their marriage.

Last week Will called the stockholders of the Means & Russell Iron Co together and they reduced the capital stock to $96.000.00. It was $250.000.00 when Grandfather died - and has been reduced by cash payments to the present figures. The old properties were not such bad investments after all.

With love - Your affectionate nephew
E. C. Means

accept for our Stock
on condition all stockholders could join in sale with us

—

E. C. Evans

E. C. Evans

Sept 19th 99

Mr. Frank Lyman
Secty Low Moor Iron Co
Low Moor Va

Dear Sir:

Herewith I enclose subscriptions of Miss Margaret A. Means for Ten (10) bonds and of myself for One (1) bond of the proposed issue of bonds of the Low Moor Iron Co.

My father is now away from home but no doubt wishes to subscribe for some of the bonds

Yours truly,

E. C. Means

Sept 19th 99

Dear Father:

Mr. Frank Lyman and Mr. Hogan of Philadelphia were here yesterday. Mr. Hogan asked for a price on Law Moor stock to present to Mr. Gibbs of the Rich Patch Iron Co. The latter has acquired the Glade Creek coal lands from the Laws & Lyman and now with our & coal wants furnaces. He contemplates building if he cannot buy a running plant.

We agreed that we would put a price of $225 per share upon our stock and thought at least 60% of the stock would be in line with us. $20 per share of the above is to be paid Hogan if a sale is effected and $5 per share is for possible expenses so that the Law Moor stockholders are to net $200 per share.

Mr. Gibbs is expected to state within ten weeks whether he will undertake a purchase of 60% or all the stock if the owners chose to sell at the price and will go over the property next week for an inspection.

I shall be pleased to learn whether I can assure Mr. Lyman that you will join in an option at that price with him.

Mr. Lyman had made up his mind to sell if he could get $150 per share and has only very recently advanced his price.

The present flurry in the stock market may upset any immediate chance for a sale.

John T. Winslow and myself have had some correspondence about getting an expression from the A. C. & D. stockholders who are stockholders in Lowell Mass whether they would be willing to exchange their stock for Lowell Mass stock on the basis of $1.500.000 for Lowell Mass and are now working on a form for signatures.

Like the Stanton stockholders, I fear Lowell Mass. stockholders will advance their ideas of the value of their shares before it can be accomplished.

All are well. When can we expect you home.

Yours affectionately

E. C. Swan.

Sept 20th 99

Mr. John C. Minclow
Cincinnati O

My dear John:

Yours 18th at hand.

I am pleased that you can come here to talk over the Low Door - A.C.A. matter instead of my going to Cincinnati. I find the matter is not warmly received by the Putnams and they offer no encouragement for me to proceed in the matter Your active interest in the matter might relieve them from thinking I was looking out to advance my own interests without regard for theirs. I do not know that they have such thoughts but it is possible.

Mrs Means and I will be pleased to have you come to our home Friday and visit us while you are here. This will enable us to go over the matter at our leisure and with more privacy than at the office.

Yours truly,

E. C. Means

Sept 28th 99

John F. Winslow Esq
Cincinnati O

My dear John:

Yours 20th at hand—

While it is proper that the stockholders should all have the chance at selling their Low Moor Stock for the same consideration offered you, Mr Lyman & myself, don't you believe it might be well to keep the matter quiet until Mr. Gibbs expresses himself? It will avoid any undue expectations in case Gibbs thinks the figure too high and at the same time not complicate the A.C.&I. matter by giving a reason for delay—

Let us work on the A.C.&I.- Low Moor proposition and leave the Gibbs matter to come as it may—

Hogan proposed that he would later arrange a meeting with Gibbs & Lyman at which terms of option would be discussed— I tried to impress on Hogan that commission on 3 millions was greater than upon 2 millions— I shall expect to find you on No 2 Friday— Yours truly: E. C. Mears

Sept 21st 99

Mr. Lee L. Carter
Pres. V. C. I. & Co Co
Bristol, Tenn.

Dear Sir:

In connection with our conversation at Covington Va, about fire brick.
I find that the Clinton Fire Brick Works of this place has some spare capacity beginning in November and that $14.00 per thousand is the present quotation for Coke oven brick.
Owing to my interest there I shall be pleased if you favor that company with any orders for fire brick -

With regards -

Yours truly:

E. C. Means

Sept 28th 99

Dear Father:

Your wire announcing that you want two hundred for your Electric Light stock and all forfeited payments received this morning. This afternoon a majority of the stockholders including Putnams, Henderson, Effingwell and Moore sold to Russell & Vinson at $180 per share. None of the Means family sold. This of course upsets any effect of the option, as I have no doubt that two thirds will join in the sale. I think Gay Putnam secured a provision that all could join in sale by offering their stock prior to Oct 10th.

While I should have favored a sale at the price, if you would have joined, of course I declined to do so in your absence and without your approval. Gay however and the others thought you were being treated all right. Will Seaton as far as I know has heard nothing about it.

Hoping that you are enjoying the festivities

Your affectionate son: E. C. Means

Love to all—

Sept 30th 99

Dear Father:

While I was quite disappointed that you did not sell at $180.00 per share for your Electric Light Stock, I now take pleasure in advising you that Russell & Vinson today paid me $201.00 per share for your stock. Harry's Roses & Hildreths, and W C Richardson holds the same amount per share for W.B. Seaton to be turned over to him on his return-

Something over two-thirds of the stock was bought at the $180.00 per share-

I have heard nothing to indicate that the Means. Kyle & Co Stock will be taken - and will go down there in a few days to decrease the Capital Stock-

I bought for you at par and interest $6.000.00 additional bonds of the Strat Railway Co from Gay and others-

Please give my love to Aunt Mary, Lily & Mr Maynard

Your affectionate Son

E. C. Means

Please tell W.B.S. about the sale-

Oct 2nd 99

Dear Sister Rose:

Saturday an opportunity occurred to sell our stock in the Ashland Electric Light Co and as Father, Harry, Hildreth, Will Eaton and I, and in fact practically all the former stockholders sold out I advised Harry to sell your stock which he did. You had $500.00 par value of stock for which there has been paid you and is on deposit in the Ash. Nat Bank $1.005.00 I trust you will approve the sale as we all consider it a very fortunate one.

Chas Russell & a lawyer named Dixon from Huntington Cattlettsburg made the purchase for parties whose names we have not learned as yet.

The Natural Gas Company was becoming such a competitor for lighting houses and stores that we were afraid our stock would become almost worthless.

We are pleased to have the picture of Dexter with the sweeper. He is a fine looking boy.

With regards to the Doctor & Miss Eva and love for yourself. Your affectionate brother

E. C. Means

Oct 3d 99.

F. A. Hyne Esq Agent
Covington Ky

Dear Sir:

Yours 27th at hand reporting collections as follows:

J. P. Williams	Back Rent		2.50	
304 Main	Ramsey		10.00	
302 "	Willington		10.00	
169 W 3d	Lake		5.00	
300 Main	Hyne	$23.94		
"	Commission	6.44	29.38	$59.88

Yaw report payments.

Taxes State		$ 24.00		
Water Rental	300 Main	2.50		
	169 W 3	3.00	$ 26.50	
Repairs 169 W 3d	Jos Humbert	Lumber	2.00	
" 169 W 3d	F. A. Hyne	Papering etc	9.92	
" 302 Main	"	"	9.42	
" "	G W Howell Paint Co	Lights	2.00	
" 300 & 302 "	Stephens & Scales	Repairs etc	1.50	
" 169 W 3d	Thos McCarty	Plumber	2.25	
" 300 Main	"	"	75	
	Total		$ 54.44	$ 59.88
	Commission		5.44	

Yours truly E. C. Means Agent

Oct 3rd 99

Statement of Rents as Reported to Sept 27th 99

300 Main	Due from P. A. Kyne July 31st 99	—	$59.72
	Aug & Sept rent @ $15.00		30.00
			89.72
	Credit Sept 27th		29.38
	Due Sept 30th 1899	—	$60.34
302 Main.	Willington July rent		$10.00
	From Oct 1st rented at $12.00		
304 Main,	Rasmus (for what time).		$10.00
" "	Williams Back Rent $10.00 credit $2.50		
169 E 3rd	Lake to Sept 8th		8.00

Did not Lake pay in advance in Aug & Sept you only report one payment? Is he behind—

Your own account has grown in past two months— Cannot you reduce it?

Oct 7th 99

Mrs S J. McChesney
New York

My dear Madam:

Enclosed please find draft of Ashland Nat'l Bank upon the National City Bank New York for the sum of One hundred and sixty eight ($168.00) Dollars in payment rooms & board of Miss Margaret A. Means from Oct 3rd to Oct 31st 1899 four weeks at $42.00 per week

Kindly acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours respectfully:

E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Oct 18th 97

Frank Leyman Treas L. M. & Co.
New York

Dear Sir:

Herewith please find draft of the Ashland Nat'l Bank on the National City Bank payable to the bearer thereof Co. for the sum of Two thousand ($2000.00) Dollars
This is payment of the subscriptions of Miss Margaret A. Bland and myself for one bond each as per our allotments.

Yours truly:
E. C. Means

Oct 27th 99

My dear Aunt Margaret:

In response to yours 25th inst, herewith I enclose draft of Ashland Natl Bank upon the Natl City Bank for One thousand $1,000.00/ Dollars payable to your order.

I returned from Virginia Wednesday morning, 25th inst. leaving Mr. Ringo at Hot Springs in care of Dr Pole. Dr. P. thinks the visit will prove beneficial and that the baths will cause a recovery. Before I left him, Mr Ringo began to show improvement.

The hotel was full Sunday with 500 guests divided between the Homestead & Virginia but all eating at the G. Golf was the favorite amusement although many were riding, driving and walking. It was very smoky on account of the forest fires.

I am puzzled about investing your money now. The general impression is that all stocks are too high in the market and will be lower next year. I tried to get $10,000.00 Lawn Moor bonds for you but only succeeded in getting $6,000.00. How would you consider some of the preferred stocks of the industrials?

#2

Like Federal Steel, 6%, or National Steel, 7%, or American Steel & Wire, 7% —

Means, Kyle & Co paid a 6% dividend and will retire ⅓ of its stock by paying par for it right away — Then amounts could be invested in the above and probably be as well invested as in M. K. & Co —

I would also like to know whether you still desire to continue furnishing the Learings with the house free of rent. It would be better I believe to ask them for enough rent to pay the taxes and repairs for a time say $20.00 per month. The house could be rented for $16.00 or $18.00 per month to others.

Your Pontamack Gas Stock was sold at par and since then 4% additional has been received as dividend.

Your Electric Light & Bonds bought in May at par and accrued interest have been sold at a premium of 2½% and accrued interest.

I am keeping part of your money with the Trust Co at Cincinnati where 2% interest is paid on it.

With love to yourself and regards to Miss Molly

Yours affectionately

E. C. Means

Oct 28th 99

Mrs. D. J. McCleary
New York

My dear Madam:

Enclosed please find draft of Ashland Nat'l Bank upon the National City Bank New York for the sum of Two-hundred and ten ($210⁰⁰) Dollars in pagment rooms and board of Miss Margaret A. Means From Oct 21st to Dec 5th 1899 Five weeks at $12.50 per week.

Kindly acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours respectfully,

E. C. Means Agt
for Margaret A. Means

Oct. 31st. 1899.

Mr. Jno. F. Pogue,
Receiver, Roan Mountain Steel & Iron Co.
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Sir:-

Your favor of the 25th. inst. to John Means, at hand. Father is now away from home, but will return first of next week. The Estate of Thos. W. Means made payments,

Dec. 27th. 1890.....	$42.50
Oct. 5th. 1891,	18.68
Feb. 15th. 1893,	81.00

to Mendenhall and yourself for the Estates proportion of Taxes &c. as a stockholder.

Please advise me whether there is any prospect of securing a return of these amounts.

Yours truly:-

E. C. Means

42.50
81.00
123.50

Dec 2nd 99

A. T. Johnson Esq
Portsmouth O
Dear Sir:

Upon my return to Oakland I called upon Mr. M. C. Richardson and told him about our conversation of this morning. It was the first time he had heard that the Clinton stock had been offered to you. He promptly agreed with me, that if you felt you did not receive fair treatment in the matter, we would both take the same amount for the stock that we paid Leffingwell for it.

I shall see Leffingwell as soon as he returns home from Cincinnati and put the matter before him, as he still holds some of the stock, and, I hope, shall then be able to make you a price on the whole $100000 of stock in line with your opinion of what should have been done before.

This I trust in connection with my explanation of this morning will be satisfactory to you.

Yours truly E. C. Means

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DOUGLAS PUTNAM, PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. PEEBLES, VICE-PRESIDENT.

E. C. MEANS, SUPERINTENDENT.

ROBERT PEEBLES,
SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

OFFICE OF
Ashland Coal and Iron Railway Co.,
(INCORPORATED.)

Ashland, Ky., Nov 3d 1899

In reply to yours of 2nd inst

James Bell Esq
Secty M. K. & O.
Hanging Rock O

Dear Sir!

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your check on Ashland Nat'l Bank for $3000 00 and certificate of stock #109 for 20 shares — all in favor of Margaret A. Means

Yours truly,
E. C. Means Agt
for Margaret A. Means

Nov 4th 99

A. T. Johnson Esq
Portsmouth O

Dear Sir:

In connection with my letter to you 2nd inst, beg to say, that Mr. Leffingwell returned from Cincinnati last night. This morning I explained to him my negotiations with you, and asked him to name a price on the stock he still held in the Clinton Fire Brick Works, which he was kind enough to do.

As your original request was for a price on the entire holding of stock of Leffingwell viz $8000 00, I now am able to offer you the same. The price being $7000 00 for the 80 shares, par value of $100 00 each.

As both Richardson and Leffingwell have been prompt to aid me in removing any difference of opinion between you and myself in this matter I trust you will make me a prompt decision as to whether or not you wish to buy the stock.

Yours truly: E. C. Dreaus

Nov 10th 99

E. B. Millard Esq. Pres.
Hanging Rock, O.

Dear Sir.

In connection with the building of the new stove at Hamilton Furnace, I asked Mr. D. A. Heffringell to make you quotations on brick from the Clinton Fire Brick Works.

I trust you will be able to give us the order for the brick, as Aunt Margaret and myself now own the controlling interest in the works and I think are entitled to preference.

Yours truly,

E. C. Means

Nov 14th 99

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Herewith I send you proxy for Low Moor meeting next week - Father and I both expect to go over to the meeting.

Mr. Rings returned from Hot Springs last night and appears to be much benefitted in health but hardly well enough to resume active business.

The result of the Ky election is still in doubt and until a final count at Frankfort, there is no certainty whether either candidate will be Govenor without a great row.

I am not certain whether I wrote you that the Supreme Court has granted a rehearing in the Means Will case - Which ever side wins both must realize there has been a long, strongly contested suit.

While all appearances indicate that the pig iron boom is at its highest, prices are holding up for deliveries up to July 1900 - And still we have not succeeded in selling any of our properties -

With much love to yourself and regards to Miss Molly

Your affectionate nephew,

E. C. Means

Parties are to drill for oil and gas on the A. C. & J. lands

November 17th 99

Dear Aunt Margaret:

Yours enclosing Low Moor proxy at hand - Father & I leave Tuesday for the meeting -

Today we are giving Messrs Anderson & Keanes another option on the stock of Messrs. Kyle & Co the price being Thirteen hundred and seventy five ($1375) Dollars per share. This is at $550.000 for all - Your stock is signed for by me as your attorney in fact. You now have Twenty four (24) shares remaining since the last reduction -

I am considering an offer from my brother-in-law Mr. F. L. Fischer to enter the service of the Yellow Poplar Lumber Co at more than double the salary paid me by the A. C. & Ry Co.. He also offers to sell me One-sixth of the stock of the company to be paid for out of the earnings of the company after deducting 6% interest - While both Ruby & myself are inclined to favor the change I have not yet persuaded Father that it is to my best interests. Please consider the matter as private for the time being -

If the Lumber Company shall be as successful as Mr. Fischer believes it will be, to decline his proposition, means turning down a chance to make $100.000 ex in addition to salary during next five or ten years-

The objections to the change are; starting to learn a new business at 35 years of age. being away from home a great deal, a life in the mountains later, turning over to some other person the care of iron interests to a great extent, and the risks of the lumber business-

Fischer has been very successful with the Company and makes me a favorable offer to get me in so as to relieve himself from so much work-

We have made an effort to sell our iron interests this year but were unsuccessful. Perhaps next year they may all be sold and it will be too late to accept Mr. Fischer's offer-

I am perplexed as to which course to take and shall be pleased to have your opinion-

Yours affectionately, E. C. Evans

John F. Hager Esq
Ashland

Nov 20th 99

Dear Sir:

Herewith I enclose notice from Trustees of William Means and his family. Please read same and forward to Mr. Maxwell—

I shall be pleased to have the original returned to me—

Yours etc. E. C. Means

Nov 21st 99

My dear Aunt Margaret:

Yours 18th inst at hand Early in the present year I wrote to the Editor of the Ironton Register for a statement of your account. He sent me one for $2—. as you had told me that you had paid for 1898, I returned the statement and asked that your check be looked up and credit given for it. To the last request I have never had an answer.

I shall look over your old checks and see if I can find that of ~~Jan~~ 1898. With it to show payment I hope to get the matter straightened out.

This afternoon Father and I go to Lawrence for two days stay there.

Mr. & Mrs. E. A. Willard have gone to Pittsburgh to visit their son and later go to New York to visit the Wilsons.

With love to yourself and regards to Miss Molly

Your affectionate nephew

E. L. Means

Nov 21st 99

A. D. Bruce Esq
Sec'ty & Treas The Register Publishing Co
Ironton O

Dear Sir:

Miss Margaret A. Means has been a subscriber to the Ironton Register for several years past the paper being sent to 46 W 21st St New York. The enclosed bill was sent to her showing that she owes $2.00 on her subscription from Feb 1898 to Feb 1900.

She writes me that she sent a check in Jany 1898 in payment of subscription to Feby 1899 - for which she appears not have received credit.

Herewith I enclose her check for $1.00 in payment of subscription from Feby 1899 to Feb 1900.

Will you please acknowledge receipt of same and at same time look up the payment of Jan 1898

Yours truly,

E. C. Means

Agent for Margaret A. Means

Nov. 24th. 1899.

Mr. Jno. F. Pogue, Receiver.

Roan Mountain Steel & Iron Co.

Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Sir:-

Yours of the 21st. inst, inclosing check favor Estate of Thos. W. Means for $140.18 in payment of amount of taxes advanced on the property of the Roan Mountain Iron & Steel Co. duly received.

As soon as I can reach Mr. T. M. Adams, will return receipt duly signed by the Administrators of Thos. W. Means Est.

With thanks for your kindness in this matter, I remain,

Yours truly:-

E. C. Means

Nov 27th 99

Dear Aunt Margaret:

In response to yours 25th inst herewith I enclose New York draft in your favor for One thousand ($1000 00) Dollars. Which I trust will reach you safely

I found the check of Janu 1898 for $1 00 in payment of the Register to Feb 1899 and have sent another one for $1 00 in payment to Febry ~~1899~~ 1900. Please let me know if the date on wapper has been changed.

Yours 22nd relative to Lumber Co duly received. Generally speaking my own ideas of the Lumber business agree with yours but in this case I am inclined to believe that it will be like the Means family in the iron business. While many failed those with conservative management succeeded.

The salary is an inducement of itself without considering the stock. I can not see much prospect of a salary of $5000 per year in the iron business for myself at any early date.

I am going to see Fischer tonight and if matters can be arranged so that no liability will be

incurred on my part I expect to accept his offer-

In addition to the salary he proposes that $100.000= of stock shall be sold to me for $60.000= to be paid for from the earnings of the company after deducting 4% annually for interest- He tells me that he believes the stock is worth $100.000= now and that next year the earnings will be 30%-

I shall continue to make Ashland my home but will be away more than heretofore.

I thank you very kindly for your advice and hope that if I do not accept it in this case you will not believe my good judgement has entirely left me-

With much love

Your affectionate nephew

C. C. Means

P. S. Mr. John F. Winslow of Cinti suggested that I might try the Lumber business temporarily and if not satisfied return to the iron-

Dec 1st 99

John L. Pogue Esq
Receiver Roan Mt. S. & C.
Cincinnati

Dear Sir:

The receipts, which you inclosed in yours 21st Nov for the Administrators of the Estate of Thos. N. Means to sign, is for "in full of taxes advanced on Roan Mtn property"

Mr. Adams calls my attention to the fact that the payment of Oct 5th 1891 of $16.62 was to meet the Estate of Thos N. Means' proportion of the travelling expenses of the receiver.

In order that you may have our receipts in proper wording I should be pleased to have you draw another form and send to me for execution. Meantime I will hold check and not collect until hearing from you.

If interest was allowed on the $123.62 advanced for taxes it would have exceeded the $16.62

Yours truly

E. C. Means

Dec 2nd 99

My dear Aunt Margaret:

Yours 29th inst at hand.

After a trip to Cincinnati Monday, I expect to spend the latter part of next week with Mr. Fischer in W. Va. looking over the situation and getting some idea of what will be required of me in case I accept service with his company. Until then I will not determine whether I shall make the change. I have been watching the development of the Federal Steel Co with the possibility of purchasing some of its preferred 6% stock for you. It is now selling at $82.00 per share. The company has its own ore mines and coal mines and I expect in two years the stock will be selling at $100.00 per share. If you are willing I shall buy for you 50 shares this month. Please write me what you think about it.

Some time ago you expressed yourself as willing to buy some stocks that were not strictly gilt-edged but promised to become so.

I shall sound H. E. for her Christmas desire but up to this time she has not had many decided [illegible]

Dec 2nd 99

My dear Aunt Margaret:

Yours 29th inst at hand. After a trip to Cincinnati Monday, I expect to spend the latter part of next week with Mr. Fisher in W. Va. looking over the situation and getting some idea of what will be required of me in case I accept service with his company. Until then I will not determine whether I shall make the change. I have been watching the development of the Federal Steel Co with the possibility of purchasing some of its preferred 6% stock for you. It is now selling at $82½ per share. The company has its own ore mines and coal mines and I expect in two years the stock will be selling at $100 per share. If you are willing I shall buy for you 50 shares this month. Please write me what you think about it.

Some time ago you expressed yourself as willing to buy some stocks that were not strictly gilt-edged but promised to become so.

I shall sound H. E. for her Christmas desires but up to this time she has not had many decided ones

She is learning her A. B. C's and is spelling words from her pictures books. Yesterday she was describing letters to her mother when she did not know them, I heard her ask "what is the letter like A. without the cross mark and upside down too."

We enjoyed a very good dinner at Father's Thanksgiving and we hope you will be with us for Christmas day. Ruby and I shall be more than pleased if you can visit us again this winter as you did last. There will not be any parties at our house to disturb the regular conditions.

Remember me kindly to Miss Mally and with love to yourself

Your affectionate nephew.

E. C. Means

Dec. 2nd. 1899.

Messrs. Wm. H. Guild & Co.

Boston, Mass.

Gentlemen:-

Here-with find my check on Ashland National Bank for Twenty Seven Dollars and Sixty five cents ($27.65) in payment of subscriptions as follows:

Thos. H. Means,	Ashland, Ky.,	"Harpers Weekly"	yr.	renewal,	$ 3.45
Willis L. Ringo,	" "	"Cosmopolitan"	"	"	$ 1.00
Harold Means,	" "	"Judge"	"	"	$ 4.25
W. B. Seaton,	" "	"Judge"	"	"	$ 4.25
W. N. Mayo,	" "	"Judge"	"	"	$ 4.25
E. C. Means,	" "	"Table Talk"	"	"	$ 1.00
E. C. Means,	" "	"The Designer" N.Y.	----------		.95
W. E. Maynard, 144 Sixth Ave. Brooklyn, N.Y.		"Judge"	yr.	renewal	$ 4.25
Dr. E. L. Bullard, Waukesha, Wisconsin,		"Judge"	"	"	$ 4.25
					$27.65

You will note that all the above are renewals with the exception of The Designer N.Y. which is new subscription.

Yours truly:-

E. C. Means

Dec 16th 99

Mr. Frank Lyman Treas L. M. I. Co
New York

My dear Mr. Lyman:

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your check for $2 67 in my favor, 67¢ of which is due Mrs. E. D. Seaton and I shall hand same to her. Also your check for $2.00 in favor of Miss Margaret A. Means Also the bond #111 for myself and #112 for Miss Margaret A. Means—

Herewith I return receipts dated October 20th 1899 one in favor of Miss Margaret A. Means and one in favor of myself. Each acknowledging $1000.00 received on subscription to bonds to be issued Nov 1st 1899—

I have just returned from a four days horseback ride through the timber lands of Buchanan County Va hence my delay in writing—

Trusting that you had a pleasant visit in N. Car.

I remain

Yours truly

E. C. Means

Dec. 18th. 1899.

Mr. Gazzam Gano, Treas.

Central Trust & Safe Deposit Co.

Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Sir:-

Here-with please find checks of the Ashland Coal & Iron Railway Co. on the Ashland National Bank in favor of John Means and Margaret A. Means, which have been endorsed payable to your order as Treasurer. Kindly deposit the checks to their credit.

John Means, Ten thousand three hundred and twenty eight $\frac{34}{100}$ ($10,328.$\frac{34}{100}$) Dollars

Margaret A. Means, Ten thousand three hundred and twenty eight $\frac{34}{100}$ ($10,328.$\frac{34}{100}$) Dollars

Kindly acknowledge receipt, and oblige.

Yours truly:-

E. C. Means

Dec 19th 99

Mrs. S. J. McChesney
New York

My dear Madam:

Enclosed please find draft of the Ashland Natl Bank upon the National City Bank for the sum of One hundred and sixty eight ($168.00) Dollars in payment for rooms and board of Miss Margaret A. Means from Dec 5th 1899 to Jany 2nd 1900 - Four weeks at $42.00 per week.

Kindly acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours respectfully:

E. C. Means Agent
for Margaret A. Means

Dec 20th 99

Gazzam Gano Esq
c/o Central Trust & S. D. Co
Cincinnati O

Dear Sir:

Today I purchased Eight (8) Shares of Norton Iron Works Stock which I understand have been in hands of Trustees and are to be returned. Kindly send me a blank form to sign and attach to certificate and oblige

Yours truly:

E. C. Means

Dec 20th 99

N. H. Crane Esq N. S. M.
Chicago Ills
Dear Sir:

Your letter 13th came during my absence from home. I was delayed in my trip of which I spoke to you.

I note that your executive committee do not at this time desire to proceed to secure interests in this region. In the event that such a move shall be desired it can be arranged to have Mr F. C. Fischer act as I suggested.

Mr. Fischer some time ago met your Mr. Lambert and may later take the liberty to call upon him in Chicago for the purpose of talking the matter over with him.

Yours truly,

E. C. Means

Margaret A. Means - Trial Balance Jany 2nd 1897.

Ledger p		
2	Covington Real Estate	850000
3	Ky Iron Lands	357500
6	Cincinnati Bonds	500000
7	A. C. & I. Ry Co "	3000000
9	Ironton Iron Works "	100000
"	Eureka Iron Co "	1500000
12	Bills Receivable	5489366
15	Ashland Nat Bank Stock	300000
16	2nd Nat Bank Ironton "	400000
17	Ironton I. Works "	1240000
18	Means, Kyle & Co "	2700000
19	A. C. & I. Ry Co. "	5390000
20	U. S. Government Bonds	10000000
24	Colo & Kenova R.R. Stock	500000
25	Day & Mich R.R. "	200000
26	Clinton Y. B. Works "	440000
"	Del & Hud C. Co "	1420000
27	Chicago & Iron Mts RR "	200000
"	Law Moor Iron Co "	560000
28	New York Cent. RR "	200000
"	Ports. Gas & E. Co "	275000
29	Cincinnati Street Ry "	500000
34	Ash. C & I Ry Co a/c	5237
39	William Means a/c	405500
41	Citizens Nat Bank a/c	259654
56	Mrs Means Extr & Trustee	1361068
64	Ashland Nat Bank a/c	788618
104	Profit & Loss	160625
115	Expenses	647450
116	Donations	131200
128	Taxes	9388
149	Commissions	1870
152	Repairs	17588
244	David Conley	5185
245	Mary A. Means	20000
		39935249

Ledger p		
1	Capital Stock	38418835
58	F. A. Hyne Agent	142
59	Dividends	533050
135	Interest	938465
143	Rents	44757
		39935249

Profit & Loss

1896		**Gains** Jany 3rd 96 to Jany 2nd 97		
Mar	28	Estate of Chas M. Means as Legatee	500000	
June	3	" " " " " " "	1000000	
Sept	3	" " " " " " "	300000	1800000
97 Jany	2	Dividends during year	533050	
		Interest " "	938465	
		Rents " "	44757	1516272
		Total gains		$3316272

Losses

96 April	18	Premium on $5000 U. S. 6% Bonds	43125	
Sept	9	Reduction of Stanton Iron Works Stock by surrender of old stock 9th Sept 31 shares of $1000.00 each $31.000.00 and receiving new stock 12 shares of $800.00 each 12.400.00	1860000	
Dec	11	Premium on $5000 Cincinnati Street Ry Stock	57500	1960625
97 Jany	2	Expenses during year	647450	
		Donations	131200	
		Taxes	9388	
		Commissions	1870	
		Repairs	17588	807496
		Total losses		2768121
		Balance carried to Capital Stock a/c		548151
				$3316272

Note –

Dividends, Interest & Rents	1516272
Expenses, Donations, Taxes, Commissions and repairs	807496
Balance	$708776

Note –

Balance carried to Capital Stock a/c	$548151
Reduction of Stanton Stock which is an old loss but comes out this year	$1860000

Sundry Accounts from Jan 3rd 96 to Jany 2nd 97.

Dividends

Chicago & South Western Ry	2½ %	$2.000.	5000	
New York Central Ry	4 %	2.000.	8000	
Portsmouth Gas & Electric Co	2 %	2.750.	5500	
Columbus & Xenia Ry	8⅔ %	5.000.	42000	
Ash. Coal & Iron Ry	4 %	53.900.	215600	
Delaware & Hudson Canal Co	7 %	14.200.	99400	
Dayton & Michigan Ry	3½ %	2.000.	7000	
Clinton Fire Brick Works	5 %	3.300.	16500	
" " " "Stock"	16⅔ %	3.300.	55000	
" " "	4 %	4.400.	17600	
Low Moor Iron Co	4½ %	5.600.	25200	
Ashland Natl Bank	10 %	3.000.	30000	
Cincinnati Street Ry	1¼ %	5.000.	6250	533050

Interest

	@ 1%	95.000	95000	
U. S. Bonds	@ 3%	$100.000.	3000000	
Ash. Coal & Iron Ry Bonds	" 7 %	30.000.	210000	
Eureka Iron Co Bonds	" 7 %	15.000.	105000	
Cincinnati Bonds	" 4 %	5.000.	20000	
Ironton Iron Works Bonds	" 6 %	1.500.	9000	
State of Douglas Putnam	@ 6 % 1 yr	1.000.	6000	
" " A. C & S Ry Co	@ 6 % ½ yr	4.000.	12200	
" " " " " "	" 6 % 1 yr	20.000.	120000	
" " Clinton F. B. Works	" 7 % 1 yr	1.000.	7000	
" " Ash & Cattle Street Ry	" 7 % 1 yr	5.000.	35000	
" " Ash. Electric Light Co	" 7 % 1 yr	2.000.	14083	
" " J. H. Wade	" 7 % 1 yr	500.	5232	938465

Rents

Covington Property		19520	
Kilgore "		20000	
" "	Coal Royalty	5237	44757

State — Wade note reduced by partial payments from $800. to $600. during year in which interest was paid. Lenee interest was $52.32 instead of $56.00

Sundry Accounts from Jany 3rd 96 to Jany 2nd 97.

Expenses

1896 Jany 1	F. L. Gaige	Packing	Statuary	150	
" 27	M. A. Means	New York	Draft	100000	
April 25	" "	"	" "	100000	
May 25	" "	"	" "	100000	
Aug 8	" "	"	" " (3)	30000	
Sept 30	" "	"	" " (3)	30000	
Oct 2	" "	"	" "	100000	
" 22	" "	"	" "	100000	
Dec 11	" "	"	" " (4)	40000	
Nov 28	Mrs. Sarah McChesney	"	" " Room	16000	
Dec 28	" "	"	" " "	16000	
" 31	Ellison C. Means	Check Ach. Nat. Bank		80000	712150
	Less amount to donations				64700
	Total for year				647450

Donations

96 Mar 25	Rev Robert N. Barrett	Ck on Ach. Nat Bank		10000	
" "	Rev W. H. Hampton	" " "	" "	5000	
April 14	Miss Mary Mord Chase	Draft on Berlin.		50000	
June 25	Mrs. M. A. Hampton	Ck on Ach. Nat. Bank		1500	
Oct 30	Cash from M. A. Means as reported			53600	
Dec 11	" " "	" "	"	11100	131200
	Last two items Credited Expenses Ofc as above				

Taxes

96 Feb 5	December '95 Half	Covington	Property	4000	
Aug 10	June '96 "	"	"	4000	
Dec 26	Year '96	Kilgore	"	1388	9388

Repairs

1896	Covington Property for year		4704	
	Kilgore " " "		12584	17588

Commissions

1896	F. A. Hynes Agent Covington Property		1870

Statement of Bills Receivable – List as of Jany 2nd 1897

	Ashland Coal & Iron Ry Co 6 notes.				
1	April 1st 1896		6%	500000	
2	" " "		6 "	500000	
3	" " "		6 "	1000000	
4	June 1st "		6 "	500000	
5	" " "		6 "	500000	
6	November 13th "		6 "	500000	3500000
	Clinton Fire Brick Works 2 notes.				
1	Jany 18th 1896		7%	300000	
2	March 11th "		7 "	100000	400000
	A & H. Lampton 4 notes.				
1	July 7th 1893	@ 4 months		22500	
2	" 17th "	"	"	45000	
3	Aug 18th "	"	"	45000	
4	Sept 17th "	"	"	40000	152500
	William Means Aug 25th 1887		6%		573061
	William Henry Hunnicutt July 14th 1894		@ 1 yr		100000
	Ashland & Catlettsburg Street Ry Co June 19th 1894		7%		500000
	Citizens Telephone Co Dec 19th 1896		8%		100000
	Henry Eckhardt Jany 30th 1895		6%		15660
	John H. Wade May 4th 1896		7%	60000	
	Less credit Nov 12th 96			7500	52500
	John Peters Oct 12th 1892		6%	96946	
(worthless)	Less sundry credits			93665	3281
1	Louis Fearing June 6th 1887 @ 6yrs		6%		
	secured by mortgage			50000	
2	Ditto (unsecured) 16th April 1895 $198.14				
	Less sundry credits	74.50	12364		92364
	Total				5489366

Note. On notes of A. & H. Lampton, William Means, Henry Eckhardt, John Peters, and (1) of Louis Fearing there is more than one years interest due and uncollected.
The Wm H. Hunnicutt note does not bear interest.
A. & H. Lampton have made an assignment.
Louis Fearing died in 1896 and his note (2) is worthless.
John Peters note is probably worthless.

Items of Accounts charged to Profit & Loss Jany 3rd 1898

Expenses

97 Jan 13	New York drafts	Margaret A. Means		40000	
Feby 23	" " "	" " "		30000	
Mar 24	" " "	" " "		40000	
May 7	" " "	" " "		600000	
" "	" " "	& Cash " " "		150000	
Aug 24	" " "	" " "		40000	
Sept 27	" " "	" " "		100000	
Oct 28	" " "	" " "		100000	
Dec 1	" " "	" " "		100000	1200000
Jan 28	" " "	Mrs. Sarah J. McChesney		16000	
Feb 23	" " "	" " " "		16000	
Mar 22	" " "	" " " "		16000	
April 26	" " "	" " " "		16800	
May 29	" " "	" " " "		20000	
June 22	" " "	" " " "		16000	
July 19	" " "	" " " "		20000	
Sept 13	" " "	" " " "		13800	
Oct 21	" " "	" " " "		21000	
Nov 1	" " "	" " " "		16800	
29	" " "	" " " "		21000	193400
Jan 18	Check to Souton Register			100	
May 1	F. P. Haldy & Co - Shoes			800	
"	Robert Clarke & Co - Books			325	1225
6	Julius L. Anderson Atty				7540
Dec 17	Ellison Cooke Means - Agent & Clerk				90000
					1492165
April 26	Less Returned by Mrs Sarah J. McChesney			800	
Dec 17	" Amount reported as Donations			87800	88600
	Balance to Profit & Loss				$1403565

Donations

97 Jany 11	Check to Ruby R. Means for Baptist Church		10000	
15	" " Mary Edgerton & St Paul Hom. Charities		10000	
Dec 7	" " Ruby R. Means " Baptist Church		10000	
21	" " Mrs M. A. Lampton		5000	
17	Amount from personal Expenses of M. A. Means		87800	122800
	To Profit & Loss			$122800

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Items of Accounts charged to Profit & Loss Jany 3rd 1898

Taxes.

97 Jan 16	Covington	last half of '96 & penalty	4400	
July 1	"	first " " '97	4000	
31	Kilgore	year	1691	
Dec 27	Covington	last half of '97	4000	$14091

N.B. Hynes commission reduced by penalty $4.00

Commissions

For amounts allowed F. A. Hyne as Agent in charge of Covington Property for year $3214

Repairs

On Covington property during year $29310
" Kilgore " " " not yet adjusted with David Conley -

Court Costs.

Dec 10 In case of M. A. Means vs Heirs of Louis Fearing amount paid to Circuit Clerk Boyd Co $785

Items of Accounts Credited to Profit & Loss Jan 3rd 1898

Rents

Mar 29	J. M. Logan	for use of right of way Kilgore 2 yrs	2000	
Dec 31	David Conley	" royalty on coal in Nov & Dec 96	811	
"	" "	Charged for years rents	10000	12811
"	Covington Collections for year			38767
	Total Credited to Profit & Loss			51578

Insurance

Jany 18	Paid for policy on Covington Property		3735	
Oct 22	" " " " Fearing "		400	
	Received for damage by fire to Covington Propty			19950
	Balance to Profit & Loss		$15815	

Items of Accounts Credited to Profit & Loss Jany 3rd 1898

Dividends

97 For year	Chicago & Northwestern Ry Com. Stock	5%		10000
" "	New York Central & H. R. RR	" 4%	$2.000.	8000
" "	Columbus & Xenia RR.	" 8⅜%	$5.000.	42000
" "	Delaware & Hudson Canal Co	" 5%	$14.200.	71000
" "	Ash. Coal & Iron Ry Co	" 4%	$53.900	215600
April 1	Cincinnati Street Ry Co	" 1¼%	$5.000	6250
July 1	" " " "	" 1¼%	5.200	6500
Oct 1	" " " "	" 1¼%	5.200	6500
98 Jan 3	" " " "	" 1¼%	5.400	6750 — 26000
97 For year	Dayton & Michigan RR Com	" 3½%	2.000	7000
" "	Low Moor Iron Co	" 1%	5.600	5600
" "	Clinton Fire Brick Works	" 9%	4.400	39600
" "	Ashland Natl Bank	" 10%	3.000	30000
	Total Credited to Profit & Loss			$454800

Interest

For year	United States 4% Registered Bonds		$100.000.		400000
" "	Ash. Coal & Iron Ry Co	7%	" 30.000.		210000
" "	Eureka Iron Co	7%	" 15.000.		105000
97 Jan	Cincinnati	4%	" 5.000.		
	Semi-annual coupons	Due Dec '96		10000	
June	" "	"	" June '97	10000	
Dec	" "	"	" Dec 97	10000 —	30000
	Avaton Iron Works	6%	Bonds $1.000.		
Mar	Semi-Annual coupons	Due Mar 97		3000	
June	Bonds called for payment	3 accrued		1500 —	4500
Jan	Note- Clinton Fire Works @ 7%	1 yr	$3.000.	21000	
April	" " " " "	13 mos	1.000.	7800 —	28800
Jany 19	" Henry Eckhart	6%	2 yrs 5 mos	156.60	1450
Feby 4	" " " "			392 —	1872
Mar	" Citizens Telephone Co	3%	77 days	1.000.	1710
April	" S A.C. & I Ry Co	6%	1 yr	$20.000.	120000
June	" S " "	"	"	10.000.	60000
Nov	" " "	"	"	5.000	30000 — 210000
May	" J. W. Wade	7%	1 yr	600.	4200
Aug	" Ash. & Catl. St Ry Co	7%	1 yr	5000.	35000
	Total Credited to Profit & Loss				$1031082

Statement of Bills Receivable. List January 3rd 1898

William Means	May 25th 1897	6%		573061
M. H. Hunniston	July 14th 1894 @ 1 yr			100000
Henry Eckhardt	Jany 20th 1895	6%		15660
Clinton Fire Brick Works	Jan 18th 97	7%	300000	
" " "	April 19th 97	7%	100000	400000
Ashland Coal & Iron Ry Co	April 1st 97	6%	500000	
" " " "	" " "	"	500000	
" " " "	" " "	"	1000000	
" " " "	June 1st 98	"	500000	
" " " "	" " "	"	500000	3000000
John H. Wade	May 4th 97	7%	47500	
Less Credit			50	47500
Ashland & Catlettsburg Street Ry Co.	June 9th 97	7%		500000
Total				4631221

Note - William Means has paid no interest upon his note
M. H. Hunniston note was for one year without interest
and no payments have been received from him.
The Notes shown in List as of Jan 2nd 1897 of
Louis Fearing have been sued upon and now
appear upon your books charged to his Estate. There
will be a loss upon them as the property has been
purchased for you @ $801.00 and deed will be asked
for at the next term of Court.
The notes of A. & H. Lampton are in the hands of
their assignee and are charged to him upon
your books - See Trial Balance of this date.
The suit of John Peters dated Oct 12th 1872 being
worthless & Peters dead, the balance has been
charged to Profit & Loss -

Profit & Loss Account Jany 3rd 1897 to Jany 3rd 1898

Credits

97 Nov 23	Premium on 8 Scrip of Cincinnati St Ry Co Sold			114
98 Jan 3	Dividends	For during year to Jan 3rd		454800
	Insurance	" receipts over paid out		15815
	Interest	" during year		1031082
	Rents	" " "		51578

Debits

97 Dec 27	Premium and commission on 33 shares Old Colony R.R. Stock	@ 184 & commission	278025	
	Ditto	on 5 shares @ 186 " "	43125	
	Ditto	on 1 " @ 184¼ " " ex dividend due Jany '98 of 1¾%	8450	
98 Jan 3	Ditto	on 1 share @ 186 & commission	8625	
97 Dec 31	Bills Receivable for Note of John Peters charged off as of no value - balance		3281	
98 Jan 3	Expenses	For year	1403565	
	Donations	" "	122800	
	Taxes	" "	14091	
	Commissions	" "	3214	
	Repairs	" "	29310	
	Court Costs	" "	785	
	Balance			361882
98 Jan 4	Balance down showing loss for year and not carried to Capital Stock account -		1915271 / 361882	1915271

Income

Dividends, Interest & Rents	1537460

Expenditures

Expenses, Donations, Taxes, Commissions and Repairs less Fire insurance 158.15	1557165

Assets – Jany 3rd 1895	Book Value	Estimated Value
Covington Real Estate	850000	500000
Kilgore Lands	357500	250000
Cincinnati 4% Bonds	500000	520000
Ash. Coal & Iron Ry Co 7% Bonds	3000000	3000000
Eureka Iron Co 7% Bonds	1500000	1600000
Bills Receivable	4631221	3958160
Ashland Natl Bank Stock	300000	525000
2nd Natl Bank Norton Stock	400000	200000
Norton Iron Works Stock	1240000	372000
Means Kyle & Co Stock	2700000	2700000
A.C. & S. Ry Co "	5390000	3773000
U. S. Gov 4% Reg Bonds 1907	10000000	11250000
Columbus & Xenia RR Stock	500000	925000
Dayton & Michigan RR Com. "	200000	150000
Clinton Fire Brick Works "	440000	440000
Delaware & Hudson Canal Co "	1420000	1576200
Chicago & North Western Ry Com. "	200000	240000
Low Moor Iron Co "	560000	560000
New York Central & H.R. RR "	200000	210000
Portsmouth Gas & Electric Co "	275000	192500
Cincinnati Street Railway "	540000	615600
Old Colony RR "	400000	738225
Citizens Natl Bank deposits	394654	394654
Ashland Natl Bank "	513077	513077
William Means	45660	
Wm Means Exr & Trustee	1361068	
David Conley	11160	
Mary A. Thorne	20000	
Assignee of A & H. Lampton	152500	
Estate of Louis Fearing	92364	80100

Ledger page			Ledger page		
2	Covington Real Estate	850000	1	Capital Stock	38966986
"	Ashland " "	80100	60	Dividends	579300
3	Kilgore " "	357500	136	Interest	982250
6	Cincinnati Bonds	500000	144	Rents	50754
7	A.C. & J. Ry Co "	3000000			
9	Eureka Iron Co "	1500000			
12	Bills Receivable	474306 1			
15	Ashland N. Bank Stock	300000			
16	2nd Ironton N. " "	200000			
17	Ironton Iron Works "	1240000			
18	Means, Hyle & Co "	2700000			
19	A.C. & J. Ry Co "	5390000			
20	United States Gov Bonds	10000000			
21	New York Cent. Ry "	500000			
22	Chesapeake & Ohio Ry "	500000			
24	Columbus & Xenia Ry Stock	500000			
25	Dayton & Mich Ry Com. "	200000			
26	Clinton Fire Brick "	440000			
"	Delaware & Hudson C. "	1420000			
27	Chicago & Nor Mich Com. "	200000			
"	Lake Shore Iron Co "	560000			
28	Portsmouth Gas & E. "	275000			
29	Cincinnati Street Ry "	560000			
"	Old Colony R.R. "	400000			
39	William Means a/c	1817628			
43	Citizens Natl Bank	467154			
67	Ashland Natl Bank	345676			
104	Profit & Loss	575844			
117	Donations	110933			
118	Expenses	772017			
125	Insurance	100			
128	Taxes	12417			
149	Commissions	2824			
152	Repairs	16772			
242	Court Costs	6050			
244	David Conley	3960			
245	Mary A. Thorne	20000			
286	Estate of Louis Fearing	12264			
		40579290			40579290

Trial Balance of Books of Margaret H. Means

Profit & Loss Account Jany 3d 1898 & Jany 3d 1899
Books of Margaret A. Means

Dr

	Balance from Jany 3d 1898	361882	
98 Dec 21	Premium and Commission on $5000- Chesapeake and Ohio R R 5% Registered Bonds	86250	
Dec 5	Reduction of Capital Stock of Second National Bank of Trenton - 50% on $4000-	200000	
99 Jan 3	Donations	110988	
"	Expenses	772007	
"	Insurance	100	
"	Taxes	12417	
"	Commission	2724	
"	Repairs	16772	
"	Court Costs	6050	
"	Estate of Louis Fearing- Charged off as valueless	12264	
"	Balance to Capital Stock	103093	

Cr

98 Mar 29	From E. B. Millard Agent of Sarah & J. M. Means Heirs - Your share undivided collections		12992
May 11	Premium on $16m Cincinnati Street Ry Scrip sold		176
July 22	Premium on $2000- New York Central RR Stock sold through S. S. Spalding		36460
Aug 12	Discount on $2000- New York Central RR 3½% Bonds - Less commission		8650
Sept 20	Discount on $2000- New York Central RR 3½% Bonds - Less commission		14010
99 Jan 3	Dividends		579200
"	Interest		982250
"	Rents		50754
		1684592	1684592
	Dr. Balance Jan 3d 1898	361882	
	" " " 1899 Carried to Capital stock account	103093	
	" Net gain for year	464975	

Items of Accounts Credited to Profit & Loss
Jany 4th 1898 to Jan 3rd 1899

Dividends

Chicago & Northwestern RR	5%	on $2.000		10000
New York Central RR	3%	" $2.000		6000
Columbus & Xenia RR	8⅔%	" $5000		42000
Delaware & Hudson C.Co	5%	" $14.200		71000
Ash. Coal & Iron Ry Co	4%	" $53.900		215600
Cincinnati Street Ry Co	1¼%	" $5.400	6750	
" "	3¾%	" $5.600	21000	27750
Dayton & Michigan RR	3½%	" $2.000		7000
Low Moor Iron Co	4%	" $5.600		22400
Clinton Fire Brick Works	6%	" $4.400		26400
Ashland Natl Bank	6%	" $3.000		18000
Old Colony RR	1¾%	" $3.800	6650	
" " "	5¼%	" $4.000	21000	27650
Portsmouth Gas & E. Co.	4%	" $2.750		11000
Means, Kyle & Co	3½%	" $27.000		94500
Total Dividends for year				579300

Interest

Henry Eckhardt	Note 1 yr	6%	on $1566.00	940
Ashland Coal & Iron Ry	Notes "	6%	" $30.000.00	180000
" " " " "	Bonds "	7%	" $30.000.00	210000
Clinton Fire Brick Works	Notes "	7%	" $4.000.00	28000
United States Gov	Bonds "	4%	" $100.000.00	400000
Eureka Iron Co	Bonds "	7%	" $15.000.00	105000
Cincinnati	Bonds "	4%	" $5.000.00	20000
Ash & Catt. Street Ry	Note "	7%	" $5.000.00	35000
John H. Wade	Note 13 mo	7%	" $475.00	3310
Total Interest for year				982250

Rents

Covington Property		30754
Kilgore "		20000
Fearing "	No receipts	
Total Rents for year		50754

Items of Accounts Charged to Profit & Loss from Jany 4th 1898 to Jany 3rd 1899.

Donations

98 May	27	Check to Mrs. M. B. Seaton		1000
99 Jan	3	From Expense account H. A. M.		109933
		Total for year		110933

Expenses

98 Jan	1st	Margaret A. Means Dan'l York Drafts	100000		
April	1	" " " " " "	100000		
July	9	" " " " " "	100000		
Sept	12	" " " " " "	40000		
Nov	29	" " " " " " " each	120000		
Dec	24	" " " " " "	100000		570000
Jany	4	Mrs. Sarah J. McChesney " "	16800		
Feb	1	" " " " " "	16800		
"	28	" " " " " "	21000		
April	6	" " " " " "	16800		
May	3	" " " " " "	16800		
"	31	" " " " " "	21000		
July	2	" " " " " "	16800		
Aug	8	" " " " " "	16800		
Sept	12	" " " " " "	14000		
Oct	3	" " " " " "	16800		
Nov	1	" " " " " "	21000		
Dec	5	" " " " " "	16800		211400
Jan	29	E. S. Wilson Subs to Scranton Register			100
Nov	25	Ach. Natl Bank Expressage on C&O Ry Bonds	200		
Sept	13	" " " " " St Gent "	240		540
99 Jan	3	Ellison C. Means - Check Dec 31st 1898 - Agent's Check			100000
					881940
		Less Donations included			109933
		Total for year			772007

Insurances

98 Oct 24 Fearing House in Parkland 100

Items of Accounts Charged to Profit & Loss from Jany 4th 1898 to Jany 3rd 1899

Taxes

1898	Kilgore Property	2194
	Covington "	7000
	Ashland " (Fearing)	3223
	Total for year	12417

Commission

1898	Allowed F. A. Hyre during year for attending to Covington Ky property	2824

Repairs

1898	Kilgore Property	9824
	Covington " Including Water Rents	5459
	Ashland "	1489
	Total for year	16772

Court Costs

1898	In collection of Louis Fearing Dates Attorney, Clerk, Sheriff, Guardian Fees	6050

Income

Dividends, Interest and Rents	1612304
Less Ordinary Expenditures Donations, Expenses, Insurance, Taxes Commissions, Repairs & Court Costs	921103
Balance for year	690201

List of Bills Receivable belonging to Margaret A. Means
Jany 31st 1899

1887	Aug 25	William Means	at 6%	Past due		573061
1893	July 7	A.& H. Lampton	" "	" "	22500	
"	" 17	" "	" "	" "	45000	
"	Aug 15	" "	" "	" "	45000	
"	Sept 17	" "	" "	" "	40000	152500
1894	July 1st	W. H. Hunnicutt	no interest	" "		100000
1895	Jan 15	Clinton Fire Brick Works	@ 7%	@ 1 year	300000	
"	April 19	" " "	" "	" "	100000	400000
"	April 1	Ashland Coal & Iron Ry Co	@ 6%	@ 1 year	500000	
"	" "	" " "	" "	" "	500000	
"	" "	" " "	" "	" "	1000000	
"	June 1	" " "	" "	" "	500000	
"	" "	" " "	" "	" "	500000	3000000
"	June 8	John H. Wade	@ 7%	@ 1 year		17500
"	" 19	Ashland & Catlettsburg Street Ry Co	@ 7%	1 year		500000
		Total				4743061

State. No payments either for interest or principal have been received upon the notes of William Means, A.& H. Lampton or W. H. Hunnicutt.
The firm of A.& H. Lampton assigned but the assignee did not find sufficient assets to make a distribution to creditors.

List of Assets of Margaret A. Means
Jany 3rd 1899

Stocks with Market Values	Par Value	Market Value	
Columbus & Xenia RR. Stock	500000	1020000	Cinti
Dayton & Michigan RR. Common Stock 3½%	200000	160000	"
Delaware & Hudson Canal Co Stock	1420000	1562000	N.Y.
Chicago & North Western RR. Common Stock	200000	284000	"
Cincinnati Street Ry Stock	560000	672000	Cinti
Old Colony RR. Stock	400000	780000	Boston
Bonds with Market Values			
Cincinnati 4% Bonds	500000	510000	Cinti
United States 4% " 1907	10000000	11250000	Nat'l.
New York Central RR 3½% Bonds	500000	500000	"
Chesapeake & Ohio RR. 5% Bonds	500000	587500	"
Stocks not listed in Markets			
Ashland Nat'l Bank Stock	300000		
Second Nat'l Bank Ironton Stock	200000		
Ironton Iron Works Stock	1240000		
Means, Hyle & Company Stock	2700000		
Ashland Coal & Iron Ry Co Stock	539000		
Clinton Fire Brick Works Stock	440000		
Low Moor Iron Co Stock	560000		
Portsmouth Gas & Electric Co Stock	2750 00		
Bonds not listed in Markets			
Ashland Coal & Iron Ry Co 7% Bonds	3000000		
Eureka Iron Co 7% Bonds	1500000		
Real Estate			
Covington Ky	Lots & Houses	850000	
Ashland Ky	Lot & House	80100	
Kilgore Ky	Lands & Houses	357500	

See Trial Balance for Bank and Individual accounts

Dec 21st 99

My dear Mr Lyman:

Yours 18th inst at hand I thank you for the opportunity to purchase a bond from you but will decline to do so under the circumstances. As I am at present situated, could only take it for my Aunt. and I do not understand that you made the offer except to me personally.

Tomorrow I expect to make a further examination into the affairs of the Lumber Co before giving a final answer as to accepting the position offered.

I find Father reluctant to see me make a change and while it appears that my personal interests will be benefitted I have taken time to fully consider matters. If we could reduce our holdings in some of the local corporations I could feel freer.

I note your reference to Mr. Gibbs. If he does not accomplish anything more our earnings during next six months should add to the bait.

With best wishes for a Merry Christmas

Yours truly E. C. Mears

Dec. 21st. 1899.

Mr. R. M. Raymond, Secy.
American Institute of Mining Engineers.
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir:-

In reading over your circular #5 of date Dec. 14th. I notice that each member of the American Institute of Mining Engineers, in good standing, was to receive free a copy of a printed and illustrated octavo volume bound in half morocco, on "The Mines and Minerals of California" presented to the Institute by the California Miners Association, and I now write to say that I have not as yet received a copy of same, and if the supply has not been exhausted, would be very glad to have you forward me a copy, and thanking you in advance for same, I remain,

Yours truly:-

E. C. Means
Supdt.

Mr. Gazzam Gaus
Cincinnati
O

Dec 23rd 99
22nd inst

Dear Sir:

Herewith I enclose certificate #72 of Stanton Iron Works for Eight (8) shares of stock in my name, to be held by Trustees Gaus, Adams & Schmidt under same terms as other shares belonging to me and now held by them.

Yours truly,

E. C. Means

Guzzam Gaur Esq Treas
Cincinnati
O

Dec 26th 99

Dear Sir:

Herewith I enclose draft for $15.00 in payment Safe Deposit Box in name of W.D. Seaton & myself as per bill enclosed - Kindly acknowledge receipt and oblige

Yours truly!
E. C. Means

Hon S. S. Savage
Crest Ashl. F. B. Co
Ashland

Dec 26 99
23rd

Dear Sir:

Your favor 23rd inst enclosing your Co's check for $675.00 in payment of my part of 25% dividend declared Nov 18th 1899 duly received - It added greatly to my enjoyment of a very Merry Christmas -
I wish you a Happy and Prosperous New Year

Yours truly: E. C. Means

Dec. 27th. 1899.

Mr. H. G. Merry,

Low Moor, Va.

Dear Sir:-

Yours of the 23rd. inst. duly received.

Here-with I inclose Balance Sheet of the Clinton Fire Brick Works of Sept. 30th. 1899. This is the latest I have at hand.

I have not funds at present to purchase the stock, but will endeavor to find a purchaser for same, which I think will not be difficult to do.

We have recently sold some Coke Oven brick at $20.00 per thousand, and prospects are good for the coming year.

Please accept my thanks for your kind remembrance on Christmas, and wishing you and your family a Happy New Year, I remain,

Yours truly:-

E. C. Treat

Dec 29th 99

Personel

B. H. Burr Esq
Trenton O

Dear Sir:

I learn that the total out put of Rods for six months ending Dec 31st 99 will be about 18000 tons or an average of 3000 tons per month –

If the wire drawing plant of the Kelly S & I Co, is run full, it will use about 1500 tons per month or one half of the total out put of the Rod Mill –

I also learn that the consumers scattered through the country who have purchased Rods from Ashland, can use about 1500 tons per month, exclusive of Biddle, these consumers have been paying $48- and $50- per ton for rods.

Not being furnished with the above information it is possible that you & Mr. Adams might cut off Mr. Biddle without meaning to do so – I therefore venture to suggest that before again selling Rods to the Kelly Co, you secure statistics from the Treasurer of the Steel Co for guidance – Yours truly: E. C. Means

Am pleased to learn that you turned down the Steel & Tin proposition –

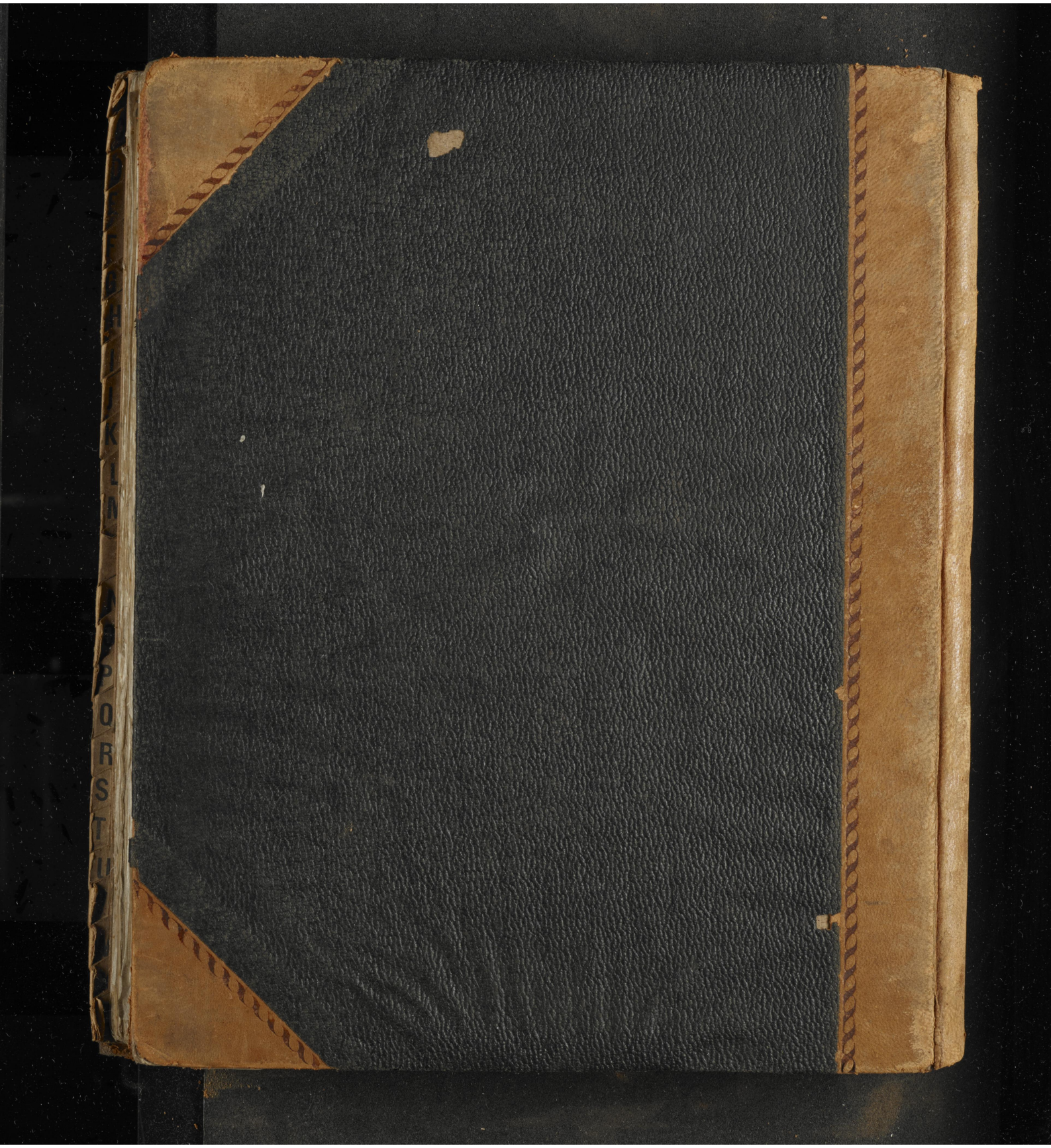
F. A. Layne Agent
#300 Main St
Covington Ky

Dec 30th 99

Dear Sir:

Please Leave your statement for rents collected since last report.
Also see that taxes are paid to avoid penalty
You must be more prompt and give
this matter your attention

Yours truly,
C. C. Means Agent


PORSTU



E. C. Means. Privat, retinet. July 1893 to Dec. 31st 1897.