

Oxford Church Parsonage
Phila, May 4 '75

My Dear Sir,

I am very sorry that my late suggestion in relation to the Trust Mortgages, should not have met with a more favorable reception by you. And I am particularly sorry that it should have created in your mind, as it would appear to have done, the impression that I was beginning to have doubts as to your entire trust-worthiness. This impression I again assure you, is an entirely groundless one. I still have full confidence in your honesty & integrity, & it gives me pleasure to be able to say, that you have never given me reason to doubt them. But, at the same time, I feel that as a Trustee, equally with yourself, of my brother's [sic] appointment, I am not in the position in which I should legally & properly be, in relation to the Trust Estate of Elliott E Lane. I feel & know that the Bonds & Mortgages to secure his portion of my brother's Estate, should not be to either of us as individuals, but to both of us jointly as Trustees. I feel & know that this is both law & what, on evy [sic] account, is expedient. As to my having continued to some without expressing dissatisfaction with the present arrangement, to which you refer, I have to reply that it was not until my late visit to Lancaster that I became fully aware that the securities stood in yr [sic] name only, & that personally merely [sic].

As to the method I proposed of putting things into a more satisfactory shape, I cannot see that the carrying of it into effect, (including the recording of the transfers) would imply any doubt on my part of your integrity. But, if you prefer it, I should be entirely satisfied if you would adopt the plan suggested by yourself of calling in the present Mortgages & Judgments (All of which you informed me, in the letter of May 11 '74 are due) & making new investments, or at least of requiring new & differently drawn Mortgages. In the letter referred to, you spoke of an intention to make changes in the investments, after you should have paid James Lane his share.

As to your proposition to transfer to me & to my "sole control securities amounting to more than ½ of the whole amount now due our Ward," this would not meet what I have in view; which is, not to reap advantage to myself in or from ~~this~~ connexion [sic] with these securities, but simply to have them placed in a strictly legal & on evy [sic] account proper shape.

Sincerely hoping that we shall be able to come to an agreement in our views, & most earnestly deprecating a change in the harmonious & agreeable relations that have hitherto subsisted between us,

I am

Very Truly,
Yrs etc,
Edw. Y. Buchanan

H B Swarr Esq.

As to the transfers which I proposed, a better plan than I suggested would have been ~~to have~~ that the Mortgages should have been transferred by you to another person & then by him to yourself & me as Trustees.

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